FBIS DAILY REPORT

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OBUKHOV COMMENTS ON STRATEGIC ARMS DRAFT TREATY

LD311725 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1538 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Geneva, 31 (TASS) -- Within the framework of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons, the Soviet side today submitted for examination a draft "treaty between the USSR and the United States on a reduction and limitation of strategic offensive weapons," and also a draft of additional definitions and general interpretations for it.

Speaking at a news conference later, A.A. Obukhov, deputy leader of the USSR delegation and ambassador at large, said:

The Soviet draft that has been submitted is based on the principle of 50-percent reductions in the strategic offensive weapons of the USSR and the United States, agreed between the sides. It is projected that during a 5-year period the USSR and the United States will reduce their strategic offensive weapons stage by stage in such a way that the overall number of intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine-launched ballistic missiles, and heavy bombers will be brought down to 1,600 units for each side. The nuclear warheads on the remaining strategic delivery vehicles will be limited to a total of 6,000 units possessed by the sides.

At the same time, the Soviet side undertakes to reduce its heavy ICBMS by exactly half. This step of ours takes into account the concern expressed by the United States during negotiations and is dictated by the interests in reaching an accord.

The aims of achieving a mutually acceptable accord are also served by the provision in the Soviet draft in accordance with which, within the framework of the limitations being established, the sides will determine the structure of their strategic offensive weapons remaining after the reductions as they see fit. The freedom to determine the structure of their strategic offensive weapons will, of course, be identical for both sides.

In addition to the total bounds, a strict limit will also be placed on forms of strategic offensive weapons such as sea-based cruise missiles with a range of more than 600 km. Effective limits on long-range sea-based cruise missiles are necessary in order to cut off reliably this possible channel for circumventing a future treaty and to secure its stability and effectiveness. Both sides can only have an equal interest in this.

The draft works out in detail the rules for reckoning strategic offensive weapons under the corresponding total levels. In so doing, the mutual understanding relating to calculating the weapons of heavy bombers that was reached in Reykjavik is also taken into account in the context of the obligations being established.

The provisions relating to a ban on new types of strategic offensive weapons will serve the interests of halting the race in such weapons.

Where radical cuts in nuclear weapons are concerned, the questions of verification [kontrol] assume prime importance. In this connection far-reaching measures going as far as on-site inspection are envisioned by the Soviet side.

The Soviet draft clearly follows a line reflecting the objectively existing mutual link between the problem of strategic offensive weapons, on the one hand, and the impermissibility of an arms race in space and reinforcement of the regime of the ABM Treaty, on the other. As in the draft agreement on space weapons proposed by us, the Soviet draft treaty on strategic offensive weapons states that radical cuts in the strategic offensive weapons of the sides can be achieved only if there is an accord that places a barrier against spreading the arms race into space and guaranteeing effective reinforcement of the regime of the ABM Treaty.

Consistently embodying the principle of equality and identical security, the submitted Soviet draft is a good basis for starting the coordination of the clauses of a full-scale joint draft treaty on strategic offensive weapons. We advocate that this work begin without delay.

The new initiatives recently undertaken by the Soviet side on all three orientations of the negotiations in Geneva in the sphere of medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles, on space weapons, and now on strategic offensive weapons, take the work of the delegations to new and qualitatively greater heights. The opportunity arises of taking major specific steps on the road of real disarmament, preventing the arms race in space, and ending it on earth.

Thus the Soviet side is demonstrating in fact its adherence to the noble aim expressed in the 15 January 1986 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee -- to free mankind by the end of this century from the threat of nuclear destruction.

The USSR delegation is counting on a businesslike and positive reaction from the U.S. side to the new Soviet proposals at the negotiations.

PRAVDA NOTES REAGAN, FITZWATER REMARKS ON INF

PM301335 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Who Is To Be Believed?"]

[Text] Washington, 29 Jul -- President Reagan stated here Tuesday that the U.S. delegation at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space armaments in Geneva has been instructed to make a proposal envisioning a "double-zero" regarding medium-range and operational and tactical missiles. According to the President, "this will make it possible to elaborate provisions envisioning strict and effective verification [proverka] and to prohibit the transfer of existing U.S. and Soviet intermediate-range (medium-range -- TASS note) missiles and launchers to any third party."

The White House head announced that the United States is also prepared to agree to the destruction of missiles covered by a future agreement and to a ban on the conversion of these systems into weapons of a different type. Much remains to be done in Geneva, but it is encouraging that the current atmosphere favors such a proposal, the President said.

Addressing a briefing the same day, White House official spokesman Marlin Fitzwater announced, however, that the United States still categorically refuses to agree to eliminate the warheads belonging to the United States which are intended for the FRG Bundeswehr's 72 Pershing-1A missiles. These weapons, he stressed, "never have been and never will be part of the negotiations." Thus the United States is still refusing to remove the main obstacle to progress at the talks on medium-range missiles.

KUZNETSOV RAPS U.S. STANCE AT GENEVA CONFERENCE

PM021633 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by correspondent V. Kuznetsov: "Goodwill and Delaying Tactics"]

[Text] Geneva -- The 424th session held here marks the halfway point in the current summer session of the Disarmament Conference.

The 40 participants in the conference are displaying an increasingly active interest in the agenda, which includes such major problems as ending nuclear arms tests, preventing an arms race in space, preparing a treaty to ban chemical weapons, and other issues. It is noteworthy that the heads of diplomatic departments of countries not actually involved in the Geneva disarmament forum have also come to Geneva this time to address the session. Vietnamese, Spanish, Norwegian, and other representatives have spoken, for example.

The session reflects a realization that the shortest route to beginning nuclear disarmament and entering the 21st century free of nuclear arms is to end nuclear weapon tests. The socialist countries have submitted for discussion the document "Basic Provisions of a Treaty on a Complete and General Ban on Nuclear Weapon Tests." This joint document is the logical development of the appeal by the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee to aim for a total ban on nuclear tests as a priority measure in the task of ending the development, production, and improvement of nuclear arms and reducing and ultimately eliminating them. The "Basic Provisions" contain the basis for multilateral talks and develops specific proposals, including a provision on verification which must incorporate national technical means, international measures, and on-site inspection. While proposing an immediate start to work by a special committee, the socialist countries do not take an inflexible position, as V.F. Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister, stressed, but are prepared to listen to any proposals on this issue.

I asked Ambassador Richard Gatler [name as published], head of the Australian delegation, how the discussion of this important problem is progressing at the session.

"We are now comprehensively studying the problem. One would like this process to move faster, but the participants have different approaches and we are being held up by the mistrust of one another's intentions. The "Basic Provisions" are an invitation to solve the problem of banning nuclear arms tests. It is very important that the Soviet Union and the East European countries are prepared to study the proposals of other states. Favorable preconditions have now been created in the context of General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev's new initiatives for beginning to seek specific results in this sphere. That is why, in my opinion, it is particularly important to solve the technical problems of verification and monitoring with the aid of local seismic verification systems. This is discussed in the "Basic Provisions" and I also mentioned it myself in my latest address. This approach is very important, as technical verification removes all objections in the monitoring sphere and makes the Treaty on a Complete and General Ban on Nuclear Weapon Tests an important instrument in increasing trust and beginning full-scale talks on complete and general disarmament."

This idea came across in the speeches by the representatives of a number of developing states and socialist community countries.

Not everyone, however, takes such a constructive attitude. When the discussion began on the proposal to set up a special committee to study the question of mutual monitoring of nuclear weapon tests, the United States and its closest allies introduced labyrinthine procedural delays, basically rejecting any real discussion of the problem.

Disparity between word and deed -- this is how one can describe the American delegation's tactics. M. Friedensdorf [name as published], head of the U.S. delegation, verbally acknowledged the importance of a multilateral discussion of disarmament problems, loudly making the point that the United States "wants fair agreements on arms control in the nuclear test sphere." The reverse is true in practice, however. Addressing a plenary session, Yu. K. Nazarkin, the head of the Soviet delegation, exposed this political hypocrisy, emphasizing that the U.S. Administration's negative attitude toward the problem of banning nuclear arms is well known. In Geneva at the USSR-U.S. talks on this issue and at the multilateral disarmament forum the United States is frankly sabotaging any real accords, preferring to keep to verbal squabbling.

The summer session of the Disarmament Conference has begun the second stage of its work; there is still a chance to display goodwill and the desire to find multilateral solutions to this complex problem, primarily in the sphere of banning nuclear weapon tests.

THULE, FYLINGDALES MOOR RADARS VIOLATE TREATY

PM301519 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 28 Jul 87 First Edition p 3

[Colonel N. Morenko article: "Another Dangerous Step"]

[Text] The U.S. Administration has taken another step in violation of the international obligations it has adopted. A big new phased-array radar designed to warn of an attack by strategic ballistic missiles has been put on alert duty in the region of Thule (Greenland). This step is a gross violation of two provisions of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Limitation of ABM Systems -- Article VI and Agreed Statement "F."

Let us recall that Article VI of the ABM Treaty permits the deployment of radars to warn of a strategic ballistic missile attack only along the periphery of national territory and oriented outward. And Agreed Statement "F" establishes strictly defined sites for large phased-array radars. The parties to the treaty are permitted to build them, if they are designed for early warning, also only along the periphery of national territory, and nowhere else.

The United States tries to justify its gross violation of its international treaty obligations by claiming that there has been no deployment of a new radar at Thule and that the old early-warning radars relating to the BMEWS system, which have existed in that region since the mid-sixties, have merely been modernized. And, it says, the ABM Treaty does not prohibit the modernization of such radars.

Indeed, the radars of the BMEWS system were modernized at the beginning of the eighties, and the Soviet Union did not display concern about that at the time. After modernization the radars with reflector antennas, which existed earlier and were kept by mutual consent between the USSR and the United States when drawing up the ABM Treaty, remained at the post in Thule.

But now they want to pass off the deployment of the new radar at Thule as modernization. [paragraph continues]

And yet U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger himself declared at congressional hearings: "With a view to improving the functioning and the efficiency of the BMEWS system we are replacing the obsolete radar in two places with new phased-array systems... In fiscal 1987 we will complete the construction of a new radar near Thule in Greenland." Thus, the Pentagon leader himself admitted that construction of a new radar was being carried out at Thule in an atmosphere of secrecy, not the "modernization" of the radars that existed there earlier.

As a result of the work carried out at Thule in 1984-1987 a single phased-array radar of a fundamentally new design was deployed instead of the five radars with reflector antennas sited at certain distances apart which had existed before. There is no way you can classify those actions as modernization.

In fact, the radar in the Thule region is a new station designed, according to statements by U.S. specialists themselves, to warn of a strategic ballistic missile attack. It has been deployed in Greenland, a country that is in no way U.S. territory. Colonel Knapp, commander of the U.S. military base at Thule, was forced to admit in conversation with a correspondent of the Danish newspaper LAND OG FOLK that the energy potential of the new radar exceeds the permitted limits envisioned by the ABM Treaty. This station processes and issues target indications 100 times faster than the old one. Its range of detection is 5,080 km, and its zone of detection is 240 degrees. So, we see here a blatant deviation from the AMB Treaty.

Lieutenant Colonel Miller, chief of the new radar complex, also told the Danish newspaper correspondent about the great potential of the Thule radar. According to him, the Thule station ensures highly accurate detection of missiles and space targets and is capable of tracking a large number of warheads simultaneously and issuing data to ABM facilities to hit them. He also pointed out that this radar is capable in the future of supplying target indications to the active ABM facilities being created [sozdavat] under the SDI program.

We also know that the United States has begun construction of a similar big phased-array radar in the region of Fylingdales Moor (Britain). It is being carried out a considerable distance from the site of the stations that existed in that region earlier. However, here too the United States is trying to hide behind the signboard of "modernization" of radar.

The United States is deploying large phased-array radars on foreign territories in such a way as to ensure, contrary to the ABM Treaty (Article I), the creation [sozdaniye] of a radar base for the large-scale ABM system with space-based elements envisioned by the SDI program. It was precisely to increase confidence in the effectiveness of limitations on the creation [sozdaniye] and deployment of ABM defense that the ban was imposed on the deployment of early-warning radars outside national territory. And yet, according to its characteristics, the Pave Paws type of radar at Thule, as well as the one under construction on Fylingdales Moor, is capable of not only fulfilling warning functions but also accomplishing ABM radar tasks. Placed outside U.S. territory, such a radar makes it possible to detect targets at long range and to issue target indications to other ABM facilities on U.S. territory. Thus, these stations together with the Pave Paws radars sited on U.S. territory at the Robins, Otis, Beale, and Goodfellow bases, as well as the ABM radar at the Grand Forks base, could form the basis for deployment of ABM defense of the country 's territory.

The siting of big U.S. phased-array radars with ABM potential in Greenland and Britain must be regarded as a potential violation of Article IX of the treaty, which prohibits "the stationing [razmeshchat] outside its national territory of ABM systems or their components."

The Soviet Union has repeatedly warned the United States that its activity in creating [sozdaniye] the Pave Paws type of radar, including outside U.S. territory, is illegal and contrary to the ABM Treaty. However, the United States has always ignored those warnings. It is becoming obvious that the United States observes the international obligations which it has adopted only so long as they do not hamper its militarist plans. That ws how it acted regarding the SALT II Treaty at the end of 1986, and this is how it is preparing to act with the ABM Treaty.

In the USSR Foreign Ministry statement the Soviet Union insists that the United States take measures without delay to rectify its virtual violation of the ABM Treaty. It is not the destruction but the strengthening of the treaty setup that is the necessary precondition for reaching accords on the radical reduction of nuclear arms. This is well known to the U.S. Administration, and the Soviet Union has the right to hope that it will not derail this very important document.

LONDON, HAGUE, BRUSSELS ANSWER HONECKER APPEAL

PM311353 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jul 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Resolute Steps Needed"]

[Text] Berlin, 28 Jul -- The GDR press has published answers from the heads of government of Belgium, Britain, and The Netherlands to the personal messages sent by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council.

The GDR leader had drawn the attention of W. Martens, M. Thatcher, and R. Lubbers to the unique chance now afforded to achieve a real breakthrough in arms limitation and disarmament. E. Honecker advocated that all states unreservedly approve the "zero option." In the GDR's opinion, the idea of creating a nuclear-free corridor in central Europe acquires new significance in light of Soviet proposals. E. Honecker expressed the firm resolve of the GDR, in conjunction with its allies, to also take purposeful steps toward disarmament in conventional armaments.

In their replies, the prime ministers of the three countries stress the need to examine questions of nuclear disarmament and arms control. They share the hope that an accord will soon be reached on the elimination of Soviet and American medium-range and operational and tactical missiles. However, in setting out their governments' stances on disarmament in conventional arms in Europe and on the question of creating a corridor free of nuclear weapons in central Europe, the prime ministers of the three countries remain faithful to the West's well-known position that the Warsaw Pact states possess a considerable advantage in conventional and chemical armaments in Europe. Thus, according to Mr Lubbers, the creation of such corridors "would not be" in Western Europe's security interests. In this situation, Mrs Thatcher's message says, the Western alliance has no alternative but to continue relying on deterrence based on a combination of nuclear and conventional systems.

TASS DESCRIBES 'FRIENDSHIP-87' EXERCISE

LD312108 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1200 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Warsaw, 31 Jul (TASS) -- The operational and tactical "Friendship-87" exercise conducted in northwest Poland in compliance with the plan for the combat training of the joint armed forces of the Warsaw Pact states has reached its culmination. Units and subdivisions of the Polish troops, the GDR National People's Army, and the Soviet Army are taking part in it.

The "Northern" detachments fended off all the attacks of the "Southern" detachments, including one that took place at night and forced them to retreat. After assuming the initiative they waged a successful counteroffensive. All participants in the combat actions showed good battle skills and excellence. Operators of guided antitank missiles did particularly well. With the aid of night vision instruments they were able to destroy the "enemy's" tanks with one shot. The fighter-bomber and combat helicopter flight crews under the command of Polish Army Captains M. Golas and L. Klosowski gave an excellent account of themselves. They not only successfully rebuffed the "Southern" attacks but also annihilated their land firing points.

The exercise's progress was observed by Army General F. Siwicki, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and Polish People's Republic minister of national defense; [passage indistinct]. [Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 31 July in its "Vremya" newscast carries a shorter version of this report, which adds at this point": "Marshal of the Soviet Union Kulikov, commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact states' Joint Armed Forces, and GDR Deputy National Defense Minister Stechbarth also observed."]

Exercise Ends

LD020612 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0104 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] A high standard of combat training and excellent coordination in performance of combat tasks were displayed by servicemen of the Polish Army, the GDR National People's Army, and the Soviet Army who took part in the "Friendship-87" operational and tactical exercise, which has ended in northwest Poland. It was held in accordance with the plan for combat training of the Joint Armed Forces of Warsaw Treaty member states.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD022058 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 2 Aug 87

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Academician Yevgeniy Maksimovich Primakov, director of the World Economics and International Relations Institute; Political Observer Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin; and All-Union Radio commentator Viktor Nikolayevich Levin]

[Text] [Levin] Hello, esteemed comrades. I think it is true that the main events of international life this week probably have been the Geneva talks in progress between the Soviet and U.S. delegations -- primarily on the question of eliminating medium-range and operational and tactical missiles -- and what has been happening in the Persian Gulf. For drama, and the passions already raging there -- which seem unlikely to abate -- the Gulf seems to be the hot spot at the moment and the focus of the closest attention; and it may get hotter.

[Shishlin] Well, Viktor Nikolayevich, since you have mentioned Geneva, let's begin with Geneva. I think not all our listeners realize that it is not just a question of eliminating operational and tactical missiles and medium-range missiles that is being discussed in Geneva. As we know, there is also the Soviet proposal for a double-zero on a global level, in other words the total elimination of medium-range missiles as a class of weapons in the world, and of operational and tactical missiles. Of course, as far as the U.S. and Soviet sides are concerned, the way is open. The way is open, though as yet there are still considerable difficulties remaining. But I would like to be a little more precise and remark that in Geneva, apart from the question of medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles, we also are examining the question of reducing strategic offensive arms and strengthening the power of the ABM Treaty.

[Levin] Quite right. This week the Soviet Union submitted its draft treaties on both these problems, and, in particular, we stressed once again the inseparable link between the problem of strengthening the power of the ABM Treaty and the reduction of strategic offensive arms. By the way, it seems to me that this element has been the cause of open irritation on the party of the United States. We already have received the first replies, claiming that the Soviet Union is offering nothing new. Once again they are returning to the problem of SDI, which they say is making it more difficult to find a solution.

[Primakov] Now, with regard to this, I think we also have to mention the system of linkages, because frequently the accusation against us is that we are forever either linking or unlinking something or other. As they see it we are cunning and split hairs, somehow trying to exploit the contradictions, and so forth. Yet logically our position is perfectly explicable. There are two kinds of linkage: One kind can be considered as an objective linkage, or strategic linkage. Well, for example, how could one avoid linking strategic arms and the reduction of strategic arms with the need to observe the ABM Treaty? Even suppose some system were to be set up -- we do not have much faith in it, but even if it were to be set up -- some system of the SDI type: Of course it would not be defensive; but, in any case, they think that the existence of such a system would prevent a considerable number of the missiles from reaching their targets. Well, then we move on to the proportion of missiles that would attain their targets under that system -- and the other side would use the greatest possible number -- the greatest possible number. So in this situation one cannot speak seriously of a reduction of strategic forces. That, then is objective linkage. But there also are negotiaton linkages.

For instance, at Reykjaviak there was a negotiation linkage, because we proposed a package. Not all the parts of that package were mutually connected from a logical viewpoint. But we made concessions in all parts of the package, and our expectation was that the U.S. side would make corresponding concessions.

[Shishlin] Yes, and the desire was there, Yevgeniy Maksimovich, as you remember, to achieve a breakthrough in all areas, as it were, of the limitation and curtailment of the arms race; and to expose, precisely, the fallaciousness of SDI.

[Primakov] Of course, of course. So we tied everything up into one package as a matter of negotiation. Later we untied it and we did so, in part, under the influence of public opinion it should be said, because the unlinking or untying of that package took place, as listeners will recall, soon after the Moscow forum, For a Nuclear-Free World, and for the Survival of Humanity. Many participants of the forum, some of them during conversations with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and other representatives of our leadership, raised this question at the reception. That opinion was taken into account in many respects. So when we speak now about the necessity of linkage -- organic connection -- between the problems of reducing strategic arms and the problem of keeping the ABM Treaty intact, there is no new move or new maneuver behind this; rather, it is our principled position.

[Shishlin] Yes, and unless we do preserve this strategic linkage, unless we move in the direction of agreement while strictly observing the ABM Treaty, we shall have nothing at all; there will be no progress on limiting and curtailing strategic offensive arms.

[Primakov] I think you did well, Nikolay Vladimirovich, to start with the fact that we are advancing on a broad front in Geneva. We not only are striving for agreement on medium-range missiles -- though this is the main area at the moment because the positions of the sides have moved forward and we are searching for an agreement -- but we are going in other directions as well, allowing for considerable flexibility in our position. Take, for example, strategic arms: Well, what we have been after from the very beginning is the total elimination of all nuclear weapons. That is the only correct position and the only correct policy in present conditions. But we came up against the fact that the opposite side was clearly not ready to do this -- and not only the leaders of the states with which we are conducting the debate at state level, the official level. Many representatives of the so-called liberal circles also are not willing to adopt that solution, because they see nuclear weapons as a deterrent. It is difficult to agree with this, but that is not what we are talking about at the moment. However, taking this into account, we accepted the idea of dealing separately with the question of a 50-percent reduction of strategic forces, without linking this with a second-stage reduction of the remaining 50 percent. That is progress.

[Shishlin] Incidentally, at Reykjavik, this idea of coming to a decision in the next 5-year period on eliminating the other 50 percent was first expressed not by us, but by President Reagan. Naturally, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev supported it, since it was in line with the Soviet program for a controlled elimination of nuclear weapons as such.

[Primakov] It should be said that now they have disavowed Reagan. They've disavowed him; and he himself was later to day, stammeringly, that he meant, not all nuclear weapons, but only....

[Levin, interrupting] Ballistic missiles.

[Primakov] Ballistic missiles, though it was not so at all.

[Levin Yes, there still are, in the U.S. position, many -- I would say -- dubious elements. True, it has been reported that Adelman, head of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, has resigned, though his resignation only comes into force in mid-October, but still in itself this fact seems to me fairly noteworthy when you consider that Adelman has been regarded -- and has shown himself -- as one of the U.S. Administration's most active hawks: a man who has clearly been endeavoring, not to promote the development of the Soviet-U.S. dialogue, not to promote the elaboration of Soviet-U.S. disarmament agreements, but to hinder them.

[Primakov] Well, I would like to inject a little note of dissonance into your reflections, because it seems difficult to me to equate Adelman's retirement -- whatever he may have been like -- with the idea that the United States is giving up its hawkish...

[Levin, interrupting] No, God forbid, I would not put the matter like that either. But still here -- it may be for personal reasons, it is not yet entirely clear -- but the fact that he is to retire is encouraging. But, on the other hand, coming back to the question of drawing up an agreement to eliminate medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles, we have to note that on the U.S. side there is no sincere desire as yet to remove all obstacles from the path of working out an agreement, from the path of getting that document ready for signing.

[Primakov] Let us hope so. After all, this week it has been announced that a meeting between the foreign ministers of the two countries will take place in the middle of September, and I think we should not for the time being make any predictions regarding this matter.

[Levin] Let us not make predictions, but let us turn our attention to the position forming at present. President Reagan made a speech and said, yes, the Soviet Union, in its decision for the global elimination of medium-range missiles, has fundamentally changed the situation. Now, as it were, the way toward working out an agreement is open. In our proposals, the President said, there are two new, extraordinarily important elements. They are: The destruction of missile-launching facilities, which are covered by the agreement, and the banning of the conversion of these launching systems into other types of weapons. Undoubtedly this is a serious element in the U.S. position. It deserves the most concentrated attention, if only because until now it has been one of the difficulties during negotiations. The United States raised the point that they want to convert Pershing-2 missiles into missiles with a single stage, and a shorter range -- Pershing-1B missiles. They wanted to rebase their cruise missiles on ships. However, on the other hand, I think that there is little reason to overestimate Reagan's statement, particularly if one considers that from the very beginning the Soviet side has talked about the elimination of medium-range missiles.

[Primakov] The more so since we have said that we are ready for the zero option on operational and tactical missiles, because this removes the question of conversion.

[Levin] Exactly. But this does not remove the questions surrounding the West German Pershing-1A missiles equipped with U.S. nuclear warheads. Opponents of the necessity to take this into account and to include the U.S. nuclear warheads into the Soviet-U.S. agreement submitted a whole series of arguments. First of all, they say in Geneva that this problem is not being discussed during the Soviet-U.S. negotiations because they are weapons belonging to third countries. Burt, the U.S. ambassador to the FRG, recently proposed another argument.

He said they were NATO weapons, and therefore, one should not talk about them. Besides, they say, what do they matter, these Pershing-1A missiles. They are old; they will have to be scrapped soon. But THE WALL STREET JOURNAL frankly wrote that the point is that if one were to agree to the Soviet approach to solving the question of nuclear warheads for these West German missiles, then the United States would be deprived of the opportunity to modernize the West German missiles in the near future. In other words, this already assumes quite a different meaning. The plans for modernization are implied somewhere by the United States, and this is nothing less than a circumvention of the agreement.

[Shishlin] No, Viktor Nikolayevich; moreover, they are not just implied. These are completely real plans. These Pershing-1A missiles are indeed quite old, it is true, and by 1993 the United States, under an accord with West Germany, in one way or another intends to exchange these Pershing-1A's for Pershing-1B's. However, I think the matter does not depend on quantity; of course, given a certain balance of weapons, all these quantitative indices can seem insignificant.

However, there is an issue of principle. At the negotiations the Soviet side puts the question, not concerning these pieces of metal which are called Pershing-1A's, as carriers of nuclear warheads, but concerning the 72 U.S. nuclear warheads for these missiles, which belong to the United States. When the United States says they do not want to negotiate the fate of the corresponding class of weapons belonging to other countries, they thereby, willingly or unwillingly, are considering West Germany a country possessing nuclear missile weapons. In this case, what is the fate of the agreement on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons? In this case, how will the situation appear, let us say, if one of the socialist countries, our allies, our friends, should say that they are in need of some sort of counterbalance to this U.S.-West German component of nuclear missile forces? In other words, in this particular case, I think it is quite a fundamental issue; and unless it is solved, the possibility of an agreement is seen through a fairly thick fog that must be dissipated.

[Levin] I would like to add that in the FRG attitudes to this problem certainly vary. Many people, first of all communists -- Herbert Mies wrote a letter to Chancellor Kohl, in which he directly appeals for the adoption of what is the only possible sensible approach, and he urges West Geremany not to confine itself to words but to act in such a way as to make its contribution to solving the problem of the total liquidation of operational and tactical weapons. There is a very clear statement by SPD Chairman Vogel, who frankly states that if Bonn rejects Pershing-1A, then the FRG's security in no way would suffer. One can cite the very authoritative opinion of Stuetzle, director of the Stockholm International Institute for Peace Research, who frankly said in relation to the position of the FRG Government concerning Pershing-1A's, that not only from the political but also from the military viewpoint it is meaningless to cling to weapons, which you do not have the right to use. The FRG's striving to put this system of weapons outside the framework of the Geneva negotiations can only indicate that Bonn is really not interested in arms reduction. Nevertheless, the system is currently proving to be a stumbling block.

Moreover, White House spokesman Fitzwater has stated: We have made a final decision and we refuse to talk about it further. Well, perhaps in politics those who speak of final decisions put themselves in a slightly different situation. The very raison d'etre of politics is to search for some sort of points of contact. In this respect the Soviet Union now is manifesting enormous flexibility in a sincere attempt to find a solution to those problems which stand in the way of drawing up an agreement. Let us believe -- really let us not be pessimists -- that there still are possibilities to find points of contact.

[Shishlin] Viktor Nikolayevich, I would like to go back to the viewpoint expressed by Yevgeniy Maksimovich. In itself, the announcement that there is to be a meeting between USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State Goerge Shultz points to at least three things: first of all, that there certain difficulties in drawing up an agreement that must be removed; second, the possibility of an agreement is absolutely practicable; and third, the fact that very crucial and serious meeting lies ahead which evidently will enable us to clarify the whole situation.

[Primakov] I agree with you completely. The prize before us all is a very big one. If an agreement on medium-range missiles is signed, then it will signify a qualitative improvement in the whole situation. Why? Because for the first time some of the most modern means of warfare will be physically destroyed. It is a breakthrough; it is a breakthrough. The second point is that for the first time verification [kontrol] can be carried out properly, and to see what it means. We, for example, are not at all afraid of this; moreover, we are certain that once again our position -- which already has put our opponents in the West in a tight spot -- will be confirmed. When we first said that verification for us is no problem and emphasized that if an agreement is signed we would be ready for all kinds of verification, so to speak, to observe this agreement, we put our opponents into a tight spot.

Previously we had been accused of being a closed society, that we are against verification, that we rely only on our own means; and this was put forward as an argument, that they should not have anything to do with us. Now we have shown this to be a totally false argument. If this agreement is concluded, we will show the whole world who is in favor of verification and who is against it.

[Levin] The United States at least is saying: How are we going to let you enter British, Dutch, West German bases? But excuse me, we are talking about U.S. bases where cruise missiles, and Pershing-2's are situated. How is it possible not to verify the elimination of these medium-range missiles?

[Primakov] That is exactly what I am saying. The Western emperor who used to lead this somewhat dishonest game may find himself wearing no clothes. But, of course, this agreement is not an end in itself. I would look at the matter another way. I think the aim of this agreement insofar as the present issue is concerned is exactly to show that verification can be provided very reliably. Undoubtedly this brings us a step closer to other agreements.

[Levin] But let us tackle another problem now, the problem of the Persian Gulf. There, you see, the situation continues to be a very tense one, and I think it is becoming increasingly tense. Reports have been made that Britain is preparing to send warships there, and France also is rushing there with its flag. The more armed forces accumulate in that region, the greater is the danger that events will get out of control.

[Shishkin] The Persian Gulf undoubtedly is seething with military activity. When there is a crowd like that there is always the danger that someone will brush against someone else, and an uncontrollable reaction will start. But that is one side of the coin. But if you look at it in slightly more depth, then the situation in general is somewhat paradoxical. The impression has been formed that we are beginning to talk to the United States, not in the same language, but at any event in a language understandable both to us and to the Americans, when we began to speak about the need to undertake political steps to put an end to this senseless long, bloody war between Iran and Iraq. Properly speaking, the practical actions with regard to this entire situation in the Persian Gulf are a kind of check on the honesty of the sides, a check on their sincerity.

I remember, for example, how President Reagan -- and that was quite recently -- stated that it was not in their interests for the Persian Gulf to become a zone in the Soviet Union's influence. The Soviet military presence would establish itself there, and so on and so forth. But this talk is not the point, is it? The Soviet Union is not preparing to ensure its military presence in the Persian Gulf. The Soviet Union is not preparing to impose its diktat on the countries of the Persian Gulf. The Soviet Union is moved by quite different motives and by other interests. So that the right of all countries in that area to live in peace and security and to choose their own path into the future was respected. But what is the United States doing? Once again the United States in not giving priority to a settlement of the conflict situation in that zone, but is giving priority to its egoistic interests, to its mercentary interests, although they quite easily could take advantage of the long-standing Soviet proposal to work out some sort of far-reaching international agreement ensuring freedom of navigation in the most important shipping lanes. The Soviet Union has absolutely no intention of violating those rules of navigation, safety precautions, and so on and so forth.

[Levin] In this regard, we remind you that in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's replies to questions put by the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA, he stressed yet again that it is vital to create international guarantees for the safety of shipping in the Indian Ocean, in the seas, gulfs and sounds that form part of it. The question was put on an even wider basis, but that is one of the components of our approach to solving the Asian and Pacific problems as a whole.

[Primakov] It seems to me that with regard to what Nikolay Vladimirovich said, it must be stressed yet again that we are in favor of freedom of navigation; we are absolutely, so to spéak, in favor of finding means to guarantee the freedom of navigation. The Soviet Union offered the United States relevant consultations as well; it proposed that measures be worked out in this respect. Properly speaking, the Indian Ocean conference we proposed, and are proposing now as well, would encompass discussion of these measures and quests for a guarantee ensuring freedom of navigation. At the same time, talking of specific events in the Persian Gulf area, it must be realized that we cannot divorce such measures from a settlement of the Iraq-Iran conflict. This is because if we view these measures outside the context of such a settlement, it will spur on the development of the conflict. The conflict will go even further; it will go even deeper. This could have very serious consequences. Therefore, when, for instance, we proposed that all warships and naval forces belonging to states not situated in the region be withdrawn, we also linked it directly with a halt to the Iran-Iraq conflict. But the United States regards this issue in isolation, and one gets the impression that in this way they simply want to use the conflict as an excuse to increase their military presence in the region. This impression is reinforced even more when, as Nikolay Vkadimirovich was saying, quite -- I would go so far as to say -- provocative -- let us not mince our words -- ideas, some sort of provocative ideas are put forward to the effect that they are operating there to ensure that we do not grab the region or strengthen our position in the region. But that is not the point at issue at all.

[Levin] Yes, a tight knot of problems is forming in the Persian Gulf area. The most important thing now, no doubt, is that all states should display as much restraint as possible. One is made wary by the fact that French ships are in a very great hurry to get there. You know, now that we are on the subject of France, that country's disarmament policy and its approach to critical international problems is often quite bewildering. Several days ago, the West Berlin TAGESZEITUNG published an interview granted simultaneously to that newspaper by two former defense ministers, one of them a socialist, Hernu, and other a Gaullist -- and not just any Gaullist -- but Messmer, current leader of the Rally for the Republic Group in the National Assembly.

Both of them strongly advocated the siting of French neutron weapons on FRG territory, as long as -- in their words -- there was a dual role to the use of these weapons. In other words, the weapons should not be used without West Germany, and West Germany should have them at its disposal together with France. As you will realize, a whole series of questions arises here, without mentioning the fact that no one today needs another type of nuclear weapon -- neutron ones -- to be developed. But, one asks oneself: Why is it that at this precise moment, when a clear breakthrough can be discerned at the Soviet-U.S. talks on the elimination of operational and tactical missiles and medium-range missiles, France should be making these proposals; certain French circles, that is, but fairly influential ones -- one represents the president and the other the government. Why are they making this move at this precise time? How should this be interpreted? Only as the creation of circumstances to hinder the drawing up of a Soviet-U.S. agreement.

But to go back to the Persian Gulf; what is unquestionably needed here above all is to establish the primary cause. The Soviet Union is making great efforts in this area. Comrade Vorontsov, first deputy foreign minister, already has been to both Tehran and Baghdad. As was reported recently, he is to go there again. In other words, we want to find some points of contact between the belligerent parties. We want to work toward halting the bloodshed.

To judge by reports coming in, it appears that there are no active military operations in progress at the moment. But I think that for the time being it would be regrettably premature to conclude that a truce is imminent.

[Shishlin] This conflict is generally developing at a steady pace. There are phases when there is a relative waning, and then there are very fierce flare-ups. But the degree of antagonism in the positions of Baghdad and Tehran is showing absolutely no signs of abating. Here we reach the broader point that both what we are saying and what remained outside our discussion confirms once again that, although, of course, in the last few months, thanks to a decisive degree to the efforts of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, and thanks to the stance of realistically minded Western circles, it has been possible to halt the growth of international tension as such, the level of tension is nevertheless high. That is why headway in at least one area, or two or three areas in the future will create conditions for headway in other areas, too, so that there may be a general reduction of tension.

[Levin] In this hope we shall close our broadcast today. Thank you, esteemed comrades, for your attention. All the best to you.

BRUTENTS GIVES NEWS CONFERENCE IN ROME

PM301504 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 29 Jul 87 p 9

["V.N." report: "Gorbachev in Italy? 'Now Is the Time To Discuss This Seriously'"]

[Text] Rome -- Karen Brutents, Anatoliy Dobrynin's deputy at the CPSU Central Committee International Department, is a kind of roving ambassador for the Kremlin, with responsibility, among other things, for relations with the CPSU's fraternal parties.

In Rome yesterday, on his way back from Ethiopia where he had been sent by Gorbachev to explain the meaning of his "glasnost" and "restructuring" to Mengistu and his aides, he gave a short news conference as "guest" of Valentin Bogomazov, the doyen of the Russian diplomats who is at present standing in for Ambassador Lunkov in Rome.

Brutents discussed many subjects; let us start with the ones of most concern to us.

Gorbachev in Italy: The CPSU general secretary's visit to Rome has become a kind of fixed subject in Soviet officials' talks with the press. "Now that a new government is preparing to govern Italy, we can discuss the visit again: The general secretary is still very eager to visit Italy," the Kremlin envoy said. Minister Dogomazov added: "Until now everything was frozen by the crisis; we still start discussing it again in September."

German Pershings: The problem of these old German missiles is hampering an agreement between the United States and the USSR in Geneva: How could it be resolved? Brutents had a ready answer: "Those missiles just have to be dismantled, nothing could be easier."

Relations with Israel: Brutents' position on diplomatic relations with Jerusalem -- broken after the 1967 war -- is very interesting. "We cannot continue to ostracize Israel, although the subject of relations with the USSR cannot become the central problem in the Middle East question." This is confirmation of the slow but gradual rapprochement between the USSR and Israel.

The pope in the USSR: Brutents criticized Vatican diplomacy: "The Church leaders have a great deal of experience, and they know that the organization of a delicate visit, like the pope's visit to the USSR, must be handled discreetly. However, may of us feel that an attempt is being made to turn this visit by the pope to our republics into something different...." Although he did not say so, it was as if he were accusing the Vatican of wishing to use the visit for the purposes of propaganda and exploitation.

Afghanistan: The new way in which the Kremlin in talking about Afghanistan was also obvious: "It is difficult to say when the Red Army will leave Afghanistan. But some problems must be solved before our soldiers can leave the country: for instance the problem of foreign interference. It seems that as soon as we started to tackle the problem seriously, somebody no longer agreed that it was necessary for the Red Army to return to the USSR. I am thinking of those who are supplying more Stinger missiles to the insurgents, and those who are running training camps for the guerrillas...."

PRAVDA CITIES SHCHERBINA REMARKS AT IAEA MEETING

PM301514 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "The Atom -- at the Service of Peace"]

[Text] There has been no scientific discovery in the distory of civilization with such significant consequences as the mastery of atomic energy. This was spoken of on 29 July at a Moscow public meeting to mark the 30th anniversary of the IAEA.

B.Ye. Shcherbina, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for the Fuel and Energy Complex, noted that the creation of the IAEA on the initiative of a number of countries, including the Soviet Union, was an important step in the life of the international community and an important milestone in the cause of the mastery of atomic energy in the interests of mankind's economic and social development.

This does not, of course, negate the fact that the assimilation of nuclear energy also encounters the danger that terrible forces may get out of control, the speaker went on to say. The accidents that have taken place at nuclear power stations, some of which -- in the United States, the FRG, Britain, and lastly at Chernobyl in our country -- were highly dangerous, are serious warnings against the mistakes and carelessness that caused what happened. The conclusion to be drawn from accidents at AES's is of general significance -- the nuclear power industry must develop in conditions guaranteeing safety for people and the environment.

In such matters as the elimination of accidents at AES's broad international cooperation and joint efforts to ensure nuclear safety are needed. Following these principles, the speaker went on, the IAEA has united in its activity the functions of promoting the development of cooperation among states in the area of the peaceful use of nuclear power, the monitoring of the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, and the strengthening of the system of safe development of nuclear power.

The Soviet Union is a firm supporter of strengthening this avenue of the agency's activity.

Speaking of the development of international scientific and technical cooperation in the area of the peaceful use of atomic energy, the speaker cited numerous examples of constructive USSR participation.

The scale of work on nuclear and radiation safety has increased recently after the serious accidents in the United States at the Three-Mile Island AES and in the Soviet Union at the Chernobyl AES. The program put forward by the Soviet Union in September 1986 at a special session of the IAEA general conference for creating an international system for the safe development of nuclear power has met with wide support.

The participants in the meeting adopted a message to the IAEA which says that the USSR will continue to proceed on the basis of its principled line of support for the agency's activity in all key questions of the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons and international cooperation in the peaceful use of atomic energy.

Public meetings to mark the 30th anniversary of the IAEA were held in Kiev and Minsk.

DEPUTY MINISTER ADDRESSES ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM

LD271036 Moscow TASS in English 0940 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS -- "The peaceful and safe development of the Asia-Pacific region depends to a large degree on the acceleration of processes that help promote diverse mutually advantageous cooperation in the region," deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev said. He addressed a conference "The Vladivostok programme of peace and cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region in action," which opened at the Moscow Tourists' House today.

In its approach to Asia, the Soviet Union takes account of the uniqueness of countries situated there, their centuries-old political and cultural traditions, the complex problems which are deeply rooted in history. Therefore, by proposing to draft a comprehensive system of security in the Asia-Pacific region, the USSR does not mean any rigid framework, fixed once and for all. On the contrary, the Soviet side insistently repeats, Igor Rogachev stressed, that in creating the regional security system the priority goes to creative efforts, open airing and discussion of any ideas and suggestions by interested countries, organisations and even individuals.

U.S. CONVOY OPERATION IN GULF CRITICIZED

'Gas Prince' Departs

LD020716 Moscow TASS in English 0702 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] London August 2 TASS -- A reflagged Kuwaiti tanker escorted by U.S. naval ships went out into the Persian Gulf, the REUTER news agency reports. Thus, the first operation of steering reflagged Kuwaiti tankers through the Persian Gulf has entered its final stage. The Gas Prince tanker carrying 40,000 tons of oil left an oil port in conditions of utmost secrecy. The authorities refused to disclose its coordinates or its route, only pointed out that it had passed a dangerous zone where the Bridgeton, another Kuwaiti tanker, had struck a mine on July 24.

An atmosphere of profound secrecy around the operation of steering the Kuwaiti tanker is explained by the threat of Iran to deal a blow at U.S. ships in the Persian Gulf which would dramatically aggravate a military conflict there. Responsibility for a possible escalation of tension in that region rests with the U.S. Administration which refused to heed the opinion of of the world and American public and give up the dangerous idea of escorting Kuwaiti tankers by U.S. naval ships.

U.S. Draws Up Target List

LD011047 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] The Persian Gulf situation is becoming more and more tense. We have just received this report from Aleksandr Levchenko, our correspondent in Baghdad:

[Levchenko] The unprecedented concentration of the West's naval forces in an area where the fire of the Iran-Iraq conflict has been raging now for 7 years can hardly be called anything other than provocative. U.S. headquarters has already drawn up a list of targets in Iranian territory for ship-borne aircraft and ships' guns. They include military and economic installations, in particular the major oil-loading terminal on Khark Island and the military bases on Farsi Island.

Arab political observers do not rule out the possibility of Kuwait and the United States being drawn into the Iran-Iraq conflict. Washington has decided to conduct a new show of strength. It is reported by the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, INA, that the passage of a convoy of tankers under the U.S. flag and accompanied by ships of the U.S. Navy close to Iranian missile batteries is being planned for the first few days of August.

'Guadalcanal' Headed for Gulf

LD011338 Moscow TASS in English 1308 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] New York August 1 TASS -- The United States is too much concerned with a military settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict, instead of taking more vigorous actions on the diplomatic front, a press conference was told here by Clovis Maksud, permanent observer of the League of Arab States to the U.N. Washington, he stressed, should centre its attention on resolving the conflict in conformity with the resolution of the U.N. Security Council.

Meanwhile, the Reagan administration is speeding up the completion of the military operation in the Gulf, insisting on the dispatch at the earliest date back on their return voyage of five Kuwaiti tankers in full load. Even U.S. military experts are expressing doubt about the advisability of this decision. According to the newspaper WALL STREET JOURNAL, officials of the U.S. Naval Department were forced to admit that if two tankers and three U.S. warships escorting them set out on a voyage without a proper sweeping of mines in the Gulf, this may have disastrous consequences for American seamen.

The explosion of the mine, which supertanker Bridgeton hit last Friday, left in the ships's hull a hole of mine by three metres. And if it happened so that a U.S. destroyer or frigate were in place of the tanker, the U.S. Navy would be sure to lose one war ship.

Now amphibious helicopter carrier Guadalcanal is approaching the Persian Gulf. It has on board, the newspaper JOURNAL OF COMMERCE says, nearly 800 Marines and 22 war helicopters prepared to take them to any point of the Gulf area. The sending of U.S. troops to the Persian Gulf is a dangerous political signal, a ranking American figure said in the newspaper interview.

U.S. Minesweepers En Route

LD011201 Moscow TASS in English 1149 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Washington August 1 TASS -- The United States is dispatching to the Persian Gulf several mine sweepers now stationed in Charleston, South Carolina, the AP agency quoted as saying representatives of the Pentagon, who wished to remain unidentified. It points out that in the past, the American Navy decided to send to the region eight heavy helicopters Sea Stallion fitted out especially for mine sweeping. Washington's next step towards building up tensions in the Persian Gulf followed after its closest NATO partners refused to participate in escorting Kuwaiti tankers carrying the U.S. flag. As the CBS television company said, in answer to President Reagan's call to the allies for assistance, a resolute "no" came and was repeated several times. According to the television company, first Britain and then The Netherlands and West Germany rejected Washington's demand. Even British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, the most determined supporter of the President said, the U.S. policy in that area is too provocative.

Allies Refuse Cooperation

LD20712 Moscow TASS in English 0701 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] New York August 2 TASS -- Italy has turned down a U.S. proposal to dispatch its naval mine-sweepers to the Persian Gulf. In his official reply to a message of Caspar Weinberger, U.S. defense secretary, Valerio Zanone, defense minister of Italy, pointed out that Italy found it necessary to ensure freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf, but believed that this should be done with the help of the U.N., the UPI news agency reports from Rome.

Earlier similar dangerous proposals of the U.S. were turned down by Britain, France, West Germany, The Netherlands and Saudi Arabia. Most sober-minded politicians have no doubts about the adventuristic nature of the actions of Washington which seeks to expand its mililtary presence in the Persian Gulf and to draw into it its partners by various military blocs and agreements.

TASS LIKENS U.S. GULF POLICY TO VIETNAM WAR

LD010917 Moscow TASS in English 0846 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 1 TASS -- TASS Political News Analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

In the first days of August one is likely to remember the tragic developments that took place about a quarter of a century ago, in 1964, in the Gulf of Tonkin, Vietnam. The "Maddox" and "Turner Joy" destroyers of the U.S. Seventh Fleet violated the territorial waters of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in order to 'establish the right to free navigation in international waters', as it was put at that time.

In the course of the cooperation they reported to Washington that North Vietnamese coastal-guard boats had allegedly staged an 'unprovoked attack' on U.S. naval ships. On the basis of this groundless report Washington decided to take a 'retaliatory' action. 64 planes from the "Ticonderoga" and "Constellation" aircraft carriers bombed the cities of Vinh, Benthuy and Hongai, as well as major transport junctions of North Vietnam.

Finally, U.S. Congress adopted on the demand of Lyndon Johnson the "Tonkin resolution" which legalized a large-scale aggression against Vietnam started by the U.S.

The provocation in the Gulf of Tonkin was used as a pretext for the invasion of South Vietnam by the U.S. Expeditionary Corps with a strength of half a million. The U.S. used in this invasion 68 per cent of its infantry, 60 per cent of the Marines, 32 per cent of tactical Air Force and 50 per cent of its strategic Air Force. Some 8 million tons of bombs was dropped on Vietnam, which makes about 170 kg per each Vietnamese citizen. This military gamble (which is the only way to describe this step) cost the U.S. 352 billion dollars. Some 58,000 American soldiers were killed in Vietnam.

The question arises if America drew a lesson from this venture which irreparably undermined its prestige. George Ball, former U.S. under secretary of state, said during hearings in Congress that he saw no evidence to the effect that U.S. leaders had learned the lesson. The White House tries today to teach Central American countries what political system they should have, regards regional conflicts only as a manifestation of the East-West confrontation and believes that military force is the best instrument for resolving problems.

The statement of the former American diplomat could be well be made today and not two years ago. By-passing U.S. Congress, the U.S. armed forces are again used outside the country. Again various pretexts are invented, incidents are provoked which are usually followed by acts of 'retaliation'. This is what happened in Grenada, Lebanon, Libya, Nicaragua and El Salvador. Everywhere, as Graham Greene put it in his novel "The Quiet American," the U.S. demonstrates the death-carrying kind intentions of Americans.

Present-day actions of the U.S. Administration in the Persian Gulf acquire especially dangerous character. Under the hackneyed pretext of ensuring "freedom of navigation" U.S. naval ships were dispatched there. U.S. bombers take off from "Constellation" aircraft carrier and train possible combat operations in that region. The "Missouri" battleship equipped with 16-inch guns and Tomahawk cruise missiles is heading for the Persian Gulf to demonstrate "America's resolve". U.S. Navy spokesmen describe the battleship as ideal for dealing retaliatory blows. In other words, "retaliation" again.

According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, the Pentagon prepared a list of targets in Iran that could be attacked if President Reagan deemed it expedient. The same was done in the 60s with regard to Vietnam.

Through the ill will of Washington the developments in the Persian Gulf are coming close to a dangerous point when a regional conflict can spread outside the geographic boundaries of the region and trigger a serious international crisis. Washington seems to have overcome the "Vietnamese syndrome", but, unfortunately, it drew no lesson from it.

Moscow Arabic on Vietnam Parallel

LD012025 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 1 Aug 87

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] They talk persistently across the ocean today about the possibility of creating a second Vietnam as a result of the military measures being taken by the United States in the Gulf. This is also the opinion of Western Europe, which refuses to join in the Pentagon's risky military game in the Gulf. The matter is confined to the fact that the United States in 1964 stirred up the so-called Tonkin incident. The Pentagon ordered its fleet to enter Vietnam's territorial waters under the pretext of defending warships belonging to its 7th Fleet, which were attacked, according to the Pentagon, by boats belonging to democratic Vietnam. The Pentagon ordered attacks on a number of cities in North Vietnam. Following these bestial blows came the U.S. large-scale aggression against Vietnam, which lasted many years and inflicted heavy losses and tragedies on the Vietnamese people.

The United States paid a heavy price for its attack on Vietnam. It lost more than 58,000 soldiers in Vietnam. The Vietnam syndrome has for a long time overburdened the United States, but it seems Washington has now forgotten the harsh lesson of Vietnam. The United States once again shelters behind the excuse of defending its alleged right to confirm freedom of navigation, in the Gulf this time, and bets once again on military force. The aircraft carrier Constellation, defender of the U.S. war against the Vietnamese people, is now in the Straits of Hormuz. Fighters take off from this warship to fly over the Gulf, to coordinate plans to fire missiles and strike enemy targets. The Pentagon has identified these targets on Iranian territory. If President Reagan decides that the situation is suitable, vengeful blows will be dealt to the enemy. Within the context of the psychological preparations being made for the aggression, Washington is waging an anti-Iranian campaign, using statements by the warthirsty senior officials in Tehran. Therefore, current events in the Gulf are approaching, thanks to Washington's will, the danger point. If the United States crosses this line, the framework of this armed conflict between Iraq and Iran will be widened. In the event of this, it is possible that the most dangerous international crisis will emerge with unexpected consequences.

What necessary measures should be taken immediately to avoid the danger hanging over the world? First, an agreement should be reached on halting the Gulf war. The Security Council resolution and most of the international community demand this. We recall that Iraq has firmly announced its readiness to halt the war if Iran ceases fire. Then the militarists will loose the basic winning card, with which the United States is fanning the flames of tension in the Gulf.

TALKS HELD WITH PRC ON UNGA SESSION AGENDA

LD011623 Moscow TASS in English 1553 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Beijing August 1 TASS -- Representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the U.S.S.R. and of the People's Republic of China held consultations here to discuss the agenda of the forthcoming 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly, including disarmament problems.

The consultations proceeded in a business-like and frank atmosphere.

Valentin Lozinskiy, head of the Directorate of International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the U.S.S.R., took part in the consultations from the Soviet side, and the Chinese side was represented by Li Daoyu, head of the Department of International Organizations and Conferences of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the P.R.C.

Qian Qichen, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the P.R.C., today received Valentin Lozinskiy. Oleg Troyanovskiy, ambasador of the Soviet Union to the People's Republic of China, took part in the meeting.

PRC RAILROAD WORKERS DELEGATION VISITS MOSCOW

LD300450 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2120 GMT 29 Jul 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast; correspondent A. Kozhukhova report on PRC railroad transport workers delegation visit to the USSR]

[Text] [Announcer] A delegation of railroad transport workers from the People's Republic of China has been in our country.

[A. Kozhukhova] During the first conference of specialists from the USSR Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Railways of the PRC, matters were examined concerning developments and agreements on long-term scientific and technical cooperation; cooperation based on the general conditions for scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the PRC, established in May of this year; as well as that which falls within the framework of the intergovernmental Soviet-Chinese Commission for Economic, Trade, and Scientific and Technical coopeation. A protocol of the first conference was signed in Moscow. That document takes into account the reciprocal proposals on the theme of joint scientific and technical developments. Concrete topics have been planned, on which there is to be an exchange of technical documents, information, and production experience.

During their stay in our country, the Chinese railroad workers visited the Moscow and Belorussian railroads and familiarized themselves with the new management methods.

Group's Visit Reviewed

OW020254 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Excerpts] Dear Chinese listeners, Soviet-Chinese relations have become more diversified. In a recent interview with Indonesia's MERDEKA, Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: A noticeable improvement has appeared in our relations with China in the development of trade-economic, scientific-technical, and cultural ties. His remark also characterized the railway transport cooperation between the two countries. Following is a report by our station reporter Dubov in this regard.

A Chinese railway delegation recently visited the Soviet Union. The Chinese specialists showed a great interest in the railway transport work in Belorussia and Moscow and familiarized themselves with the so-called Belorussian method, a new system for managing Soviet railway transportation more economically. [passage omitted]

Naturally, members of the Chinese railway delegation were interested in the new Soviet system, because reform of railway transport management has also been going on in China. There are great prospects for mutually-beneficial cooperation between our two countries, which was the purpose of the Chinese delegation's visit. Through the efforts by Soviet and Chinese railway experts, a protocol on developing cooperation was signed. In an interview with our station reporter, Zhang Nan, head of the Chinese railway delegation, made the following remarks:

[Begin Zhang recording] In accordance with the provisions of a Sino-Soviet agreement on scientific and technical cooperation, I am visiting the Soviet Union to attend a meeting with Soviet experts and conduct a study tour. The purpose of my visit is to discuss the prospects for long-term cooperation in railway transportation between the two countries, as well as to study the experience of Soviet economic structural reform, particularly Belorussia's railway transport reform. The Belorussian Railroad Bureau's experience is important to railway operations in other parts of the Soviet Union and enlightening as regards China's railway transportation. [end recording]

In reply to our station reporter's question about specific cooperation measures discussed between the Soviet and Chinese experts, Chernyshev, a representative of the Soviet Ministry of Railways, said such important measures were discussed as (?pulling long freight trains with extra-large axles), using computers to compile train schedules, and the application of computer technology to automate classification work. Comrade Chernyshev said: What is important is that both Soviet and Chinese sides have expressed a wish and indicated the possibility of working together.

In conclusion, Zhang Nan, head of the Chinese railway delegation, added:

[Begin Zhang recording] A protocol on long-term scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries was signed during our 9-day stay in the Soviet Union. The signing of the protocol shows a good beginning of Sino-Soviet cooperation in railway transportation.

It is also conducive to further promoting such cooperation. During my 9-day stay I profoundly experienced the Soviet people's warm friendship. I am very much impressed with the people and the beauty of the city of Moscow. [end recording]

ALEKSEYEV LAUDS PRC STAND ON DISARMAMENT

OW021203 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Excerpts] Listeners: On 28 July, Beijing Radio broadcast a commentary welcoming the Soviet proposal for eliminating medium-range missiles in Asia. Commenting on the commentary, our station observer Alekseyev says:

The proposal shows that the Soviet Union has acted with responsibility and sincerity in responding to the opinions of Asian countries. It should be pointed out that there has been a strong desire in the past few months to eliminate medium-range guided missiles in Europe and Asia. China has also expresed such an hope.

After careful consideration, the Soviet Union has indicated that it is ready to eliminate all its medium-range guided missiles deployed on its Asian territory. This means eliminating the problem of retaining 100 medium-range missile warheads. If the United States is willing to do the same, both tactical and strategic guided missiles would be eliminated.

The new Soviet initiative is understood and endorsed by the majority of Asian countries. We are happy to note that the new initiative has been (?welcomed by the Chinese press). As Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, said in his recent answers to a journalist of the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA, the fact that the PRC has taken an increasingly active part in discussing the disarmament issue is important. [passage omitted] China holds a stand similar to that of the Soviet Union on a series of international issues.

Both China and the Soviet Union are opposed to the militarization of space. Among the nuclear powers, only the Soviet Union and China support the treaty signed by the countries of the South Pacific to make the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone. Both China and the Soviet Union unconditionally support the proposal to establish a nuclear free zone in Southeast Asia and on the Korean peninsula. The Soviet Union and China have undertaken the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons at any time or under any circumstances. This is very important.

In my view, this type of common stand originates from the objective law of socialist nature. Naturally, our two countries, while pursuing their long-range, grand, socialist central tasks, are concerned about peace. They hope to find the best way to promote and consolidate peace.

U.S. USES TOSHIBA 'SCANDAL' TO PRESSURE JAPAN

LD312217 Moscow TASS in English 1819 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 31 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

Top-ranking officials of the U.S. and Japanese Navies are holding consultations at the headquarters of the U.S. Pacific Fleet in the Hawaii. The dominant topic of the talks is boosting further the two countries' military cooperation within the framework of the U.S. strategy of confrontation in the Asia-Pacific region.

The pretext for the consultations became the scandal around the supplies several years ago by the Japanese company "Toshiba Kikai" of four numerical programmed control milling machines to the Soviet Union, which have allegedly made Soviet submarines less detectable. According to statements by Pentagon officials and representatives of the U.S. military-industrial quarters in Congress, these supplies allegedly caused an irreparable damage to the security of the United States itself and the West as whole.

The masterminds of this scandal were by no means confused by the circumstance that the fact of a sharp weakening in the noise emitted by propellers of Soviet submarines was acknowledged by experts of the Pentagon itself back in 1979, that is long before the "Toshiba" machines were delivered to the Soviet Union. Authoritative naval reference books published in the United States and Britain also indicate to a gap of several years between this fact and the supply of the Japanese machines to the USSR.

All this notwithstanding, the authors of the scandal argue that the United States sustained a huge demand as a result of the Japanese company's commercial deal with the Soviet Union and it should naturally, they believe, be compensated. By what price? Well, something between 30 billion and 100 billion dollars. Realizing, however, that this, to put it mildly, a free method of plugging a mythical "hole" suddenly formed in the U.S. security is not very cogent for Japanese, in the Pentagon they decided to temper justice with mercy and to look for a more prosaic compensation from Japanese who are complaisant towards Washington. [sentence as received] A life-buoy was extended to Tokyo by offering it to purchase on a massive scale armaments and military equipment in the United States (as a way of compensation). So, this is exactly the topic of the Hawaii consultations. The talks between Yuko Kurihara, head of Japan's National Defence Agency, and James Webb, U.S. secretary of the Navy, held two weeks ago, focused on the same issue.

The issue, one must say, was raised by Americans in a tough way. The demand is put on [the] Japanese to increase steeply purchases in the United States of various systems to detect and fight Soviet submarines. The point at issue is, first and foremost, R-3-C anti-submarine aircraft, M-48 torpedoes, etc. But it does not amount to this only. Simultaneously, talks are being conducted on developing joint tactics of fighting Soviet submarines and perfecting joint U.S.-Japanese anti-submarine operations, etc. The matter is not restricted to the Navy. In exploiting the trail from the same scandal around "Toshiba," the United States demands that Japan make its choice on U.S. aircraft when deciding on the model of a new generation support fighter for the Japanese Airforce. This is what U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger was pushing for during his visit to Tokyo last month.

To put it shortly, having caught Japanese on "non-compliance" with discriminating regulations of the coordinating committee of the NATO countries and Japan for trade with socialist countries, they in Washington now want to squeeze out of Japan as much as possible as regards marketing U.S. armaments in Japan and boosting military preparations in that country. In the Pentagon they simultaneously hope to bind the Japanese Armed Forces more tightly to themselves by making them an inalienable part of their military machine, their aggressive plans in the Asia-Pacific region.

MONGOLIA'S NAMSRAY ON SOLVING REGIONAL PROBLEMS

PM021509 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jul 87 First Edition p 4

[Interview with Ts. Namsray, MPRP Central Committee Politburo member and MPRP Central Committee secretary, by PRAVDA special correspondent A. Krushinskiy under the rubric "Our Interviews" headlined "Peaceful Consistent Policy; Sources of Optimism"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar-Moscow -- [Namsray] The year since M.S. Gorbachev's speech in Vladivostok has clearly demonstrated that the ideas in the peace program for the Asian and Pacific region, which has now been further developed in the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's replies to the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA, have galvanized the forces working to strengthen mutual understanding and good-neighbor cooperation.

This has enormous significance for the whole world and all mankind. The expansion and deepening of relations and the close interweaving of global and regional problems, primarily in the questions of war and peace, are characteristic features of our time. In this respect one can speak of the growing influence of the situation in our region on the international political climate as a whole.

On the one hand, the peoples in the Asian and Pacific region, who have long-standing traditions of fighting for freedom and national independence, have played and continue to play an important role in world affairs. Their positive contribution to the struggle for universal peace and security increases each year.

In addition to this, however, the present development of events in this part of the world cannot fail to cause concern. As a result of increased scheming on the part of imperialism, especially U.S. imperialism, this region is becoming a high-risk zone and a seat of military confrontation. Imperialism is inveigling certain countries in the region into the global arms race and attempting to fundamentally change the correlation of forces to its own advantage. The existence of serious hotbeds of tension and conflicts in the region that are fraught with the threat of developing into global conflicts is also telling. A multitude of other problems also are weaving a tangled web in this region; they are either inherited from the colonial past or are the result of contradictions in present development. The situation is made worse by the fact that there is as yet no mechanism to discuss topical security and cooperation issues. This increases suspicion and mistrust in relations between states in the region. The key to resolving urgent problems lies in new political thinking and a new approach to international affairs.

A determining role is played in this by the well-known Soviet initiatives. Discussing the new proposals formulated in M.S. Gorbachev's replies to the newspaper MERDEKA, J. Batmonh, MPRP Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the Mongolian People's Great Hural Presidium, stressed at a MPRP Central Committee Politburo session that they are the further specific development of the historic Soviet initiatives to eliminate nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons by 2000 and create a comprehensive security and cooperation system in Asia and the Pacific.

The extensive initiatives and specific practical steps of the USSR, socialist Asian countries, and other peace-loving states in the region are having a favorable effect on the political climate in the Asian and Pacific region. Antiwar movements are becoming more active, demanding the elimination of U.S. military bases, the withdrawal of U.S. troops, an end to nuclear tests, the creation of nuclear-free zones, and so forth. Moreover, these antinuclear sentiments not only are becoming widespread among the broad masses but are also spreading at the government level, an example being the Rarotonga Treaty.

Guided by the desire to make their own contribution to building constructive dialogue and reinforcing foundations of peace in the region, the MPRP and the Mongolian Government have proposed a series of initiatives in recent years: in particular, adopting a convention on mutual nonaggression and the nonuse of force in interstate relations in the Asian and Pacific region, holding a meeting of parliamentarians from countries in the region, and convening an all-Asia forum for peace and cooperation in the future. These goals are served by the international meetings of youth, trade union, and other social organizations and also of parliamentarians from socialist Asian countries that have been held in Ulaanbaatar, and particularly by forums like the consultative meeting of representatives of communist and revolutionary democratic parties labeled "For Peace, Security, and Good-Neighbor Cooperation in the Asian and Pacific Region."

Many serious obstacles stand in the way of ensuring peace and security in our part of the world. At the same time, we must not underestimate the potential of peace and reason and the considerable possibilities in the region for stepping up and combining the efforts of all people of good will opposed to war, irrespective of their ideological, class, political, and national differences.

The struggle for social progress and the fight for mankind's survival are closely interwoven in a single knot. It is both important and essential to find points of contact in the multifaceted peace movement and ensure unity of action by all its units. Actively supporting the USSR's peace-loving initiatives and consistently implementing a policy of peace and cooperation in the international arena, People's Mongolia will continue to actively promote the cause of removing the nuclear threat and ensuring peace and security in the Asian and Pacific region and throughout the world.

TASS REPORTS MECCA RIOTS, IRANIAN REACTION

Saudi Announcement Reported

LD020447 Moscow TASS in English 0442 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] London August 2 TASS -- A total of 402 persons were killed and 648 were injured as a result of fierce clashes in Mecca yesterday between Muslim pilgrims from Iran and a number of other countries, Saudi Arabian television officially announced. Among those killed were 85 Saudi Arabian citizens, 275 Iranians and 42 citizens of other countries.

Reporting on it, the REUTER agency said that in the opinion of Riyadh television, responsible for the rioting are Iranian pilgrims. It quotes Saudi Arabian Information Minister Ali Hasan al-Shair as saying that in restoring order, Saudi Arabian security forces did not fire a single shot.

Saudi Building 'Captured'

LD010918 Moscow TASS in English 0907 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] London August 1 TASS -- More than 500 Iranians, among whom were relatives of the Iranian pilgrims killed in Mecca, captured the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Tehran today, the BBC television company quoted the Islamic Republic News Agency IRNA as saying.

According to the report, the crowd who stormed into the building, broke furniture, tore the portraits of King Khalid and King Fahd off the walls, threw them out into the street and burnt them. According to one of the participants in that action, there were no Saudi diplomats in the building when it was seized.

As BBC reminded, these events happened after the news reached Tehran about the fierce clashes in Mecca on Friday between Muslim pilgrims from Iran and a number of other countries. There were human casualties.

According to an official spokesman for the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Home Affairs, the rioting was started by Iranian pilgrims. They set on fire several cars and staged a march in Mecca, in whose course they repeatedly attacked pilgrims from other countries. The police were forced to intervene and disperse the demonstration. According to the version of IRNA, the Saudi police opened fire on a "peaceful march" of Iranian pilgrims, killing nearly 200 and wounding "hundreds" of its participants.

More on Embassy Takeovers

LD011053 Moscow TASS in English 1032 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Nicosia August 1 TASS -- After the Iranian mass media reported that 200 people had been killed during the dispersion of a demonstration of Iranian pilgrims in Mecca protest demonstrations started in Tehran. About 500 Tehran residents stormed into the Saudi Embassy and held a rally at which they burned a portrait of Fahd, king of Saudi Arabia, the IRNA news agency reports.

With the help of the police the premises of the embassy were cleared. None of the diplomats were injured. A charge d'affairs ad interim of Saudi Arabia was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iran where a protest was made to him over the actions of the Mecca police. After an emergency session of the Iranian Government mourning was announced in the country.

Participants in a vigorous street demonstration who were described by IRNA as relatives of the slain pilgrims destroyed and set on fire the building of the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran. The Iranian leadership is blaming Kuwait for its alleged support for Iraq in its war against Iran.

Iran Accuses U.S. of 'Conspiracy'

LD011705 Moscow TASS in English 1631 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Nicosia August 1 TASS -- According to the Iranian Islamic Republic News Agency, a "group of angry Iranian people" stormed the building of the French Embassy in Tehran at noon today "to demonstrate their hatred of the French Government for its support of the reactionary Arab governments." The report said members of the group that stormed the embassy had pulled down the French flag.

Speaking in Tehran after a meeting of the government, President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i of Iran accused the United States of organizing the attack on Iranian pilgrims. He said that the events in Mecca were the result of a conspiracy planned by the United States. President Khamene'i specified the death tool and said that more than 60 people died during the clashes.

Paris August 1 TASS -- Accordng to a report of the Agence France Presse News Agency from Riyadh city, the capital of Saudi Arabia, 19 Iranians and four Saudi pilgrims died in Mecca Friday.

Saudis Bar Iranian Delegation

LD021114 Moscow TASS in English 1005 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] Cairo August 2 TASS -- The Saudi authorities have refused to let an Iranian commission into the country. Radio Riyadh reported with reference to an official source that the head of the Iranian delegation which had come to Jedda had been told that their presence in Saudia Arabia had been undesirable.

According to a spokesman of the authorities, the purpose of the visit was not to apologize to the Saudi side, but to discuss questions connected with the security of the state and the pilgrims. He emphasized that the head of the delegation could get all the information he needed from a head of the Iranian pilgrim mission and the Iranian Embassy in Saudi Arabia. The delegation returned to Iran today.

VORONTSOV ARRIVES IN SYRIA ON WORKING VISIT

LD011912 Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Damascus August 1 TASS -- Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R., arrived in the Syrian Arab Republic for a brief working visit today.

At the Damascus International Airport the Soviet envoy and the delegation accompanying him were met by Dialla al-Fattal, [as received] deputy minister of foreign affairs of Syria, and other officials.

Discusses Issues With Al-Asad

LD021603 Moscow TASS in English 1533 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] Damascus August 2 TASS -- Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, stayed in Damascus on August 1-2.

He was received by Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Arab Socialist Renaissance Party, president of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Issues pertaining to the current situation in the Near and Middle East were discussed in-depth during the conversation which was held in a friendly atmosphere.

The question of bringing about an end to the war between Iran and Iraq as soon as possible in the light of the resolution passed by the U.N. Security Council on that score was considered in detail.

Special attention was devoted to the dangerous build-up of military muscles in the Persian Gulf by the United States and its allies.

Attempts at interfering in the affairs of the countries of the region from the outside and at arbitrarily including it in the sphere of U.S. 'vital interests' were strongly condemned.

Hafiz al-Asad highly appreciated the Soviet Government's statement dated July 3, 1987, pointing out that the statement is imbued with sincere striving to promote relaxation of tension in the Gulf area.

The Soviet side reaffirmed the Soviet Union's determination to do everything possible for the speediest elimination of the dangerous seat of tension within the context of an overall settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Some matters connected with further development of Soviet-Syrian relations, including those aimed at deepening the two countries' cooperation in the international arena, were discussed.

Yuliy Vorontsov also had a detailed conversation with Faruq al-Shar', Syrian minister of foreign affairs. Both the situation in the region and other matters of mutual interest were touched upon.

VORONTSOV ARRIVES IN TEHRAN FOR TALKS 2 AUG

LD030741 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0720 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Text] Nicosia, 3 Aug (TASS) -- Yu.M. Vorontsov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, arrived in Tehran on Sunday evening at the invitation of the Iranian foreign minister. The IRNA news agency reported that the negotiations agenda includes an exchanges of opinions on questions concerning the situation in the Persian Gulf and bilateral Soviet-Iranian relations. Earlier, Vorontsov paid a visit to Iraq and Syria.

U.S. CONDUCTING 'GUNBOAT POLICY' IN PERSIAN GULF

LD011021 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] About the situation in the Persian Gulf -- everything shows that Washington is continuing to operate in this region in the worst tradition of gunboat policy. This is a dangerous political line that, apart from anything else, does not enjoy support in the United States itself. Why is the U.S. Administration continuing, contrary to common sense, to build up its military forces in this region? I addressed this question to our correspondent in the United States, Vladimir Gerasichev.

[Gerasichev] Contradictory signals are coming from the White House on this matter. National Security Adviser Carlucci said the United States does not intend to get involved in the Iran-Iraq war. But Defense Secretary Weinberger is still aiming threats at Iran. It is difficult to say how it is possible to avoid being involved in the conflict by preparing a massive attack on Iran at the same time. Indeed, it is not only Iran that is under the threat of the U.S. military force.

It seems that it is a matter not only of a punitive, once-and-for-all operation but also of far-reaching attempts by U.S. imperialism to impose its will on the status of this region, most of which are far from pleased with the presence of the U.S. military might there. Despite the enormous pressure exerted by Washington on Arab countries, they are not opting for providing Americans with military bases. But if few bases are yet in use, it is still done surruptitiously and in secret from the public of these countries.

The United States is actively trying to get its allies to send their minesweepers to this region. Talks are being held with Great Britain, the Netherlands, Italy, and possibly some other countries.

A large detachment of French battleships is on its way to this region. Washington is thereby attempting to internationalize the military interference in the Iran-Iraq conflict and thus cover up its own police role in the region. Besides it also obviously aspires to subject its allies to mines and missiles, if necessary. They seem to think that it will be easier in this way to justify this provocative undertaking in the eyes of congressmen and the U.S. public.

DRA ARMED FORCES LEGISLATIVE DOCUMENT CITED

LD012035 Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Kabul August 1 TASS -- The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (D.R.A.) adopted a legislative document on the territorial troops of the Armed Forces of the D.R.A.

The document set forth the procedure of formation and mode of operation of the territorial troops which are to comprise voluntary frontier tribes' corps units and armed groups which went over to the government's side.

As the Afghan news agency BAKHTAR reported, that legislative act was adopted with the aim of consolidating and extending democracy and ensuring peaceful conditions of work for the citizens.

The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the D.R.A. endorsed the text of a message from the Revolutionary Council and the government of the country to leaders of armed groups of opposition inside Afghanistan.

The text of the message circulated by the BAKHTAR news agency said, among other things, that after proclaiming the policy of national reconciliation the D.R.A. Government made steps with the aim of ending the fratricidal war, opened ways for contacts and talks with the leaders of the armed groups. These measures include government posts offered to the opposing side, as indicated in the July 14 message addressed by Najib, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, to the fellow countrymen.

Continuing these steps, the message said, the D.R.A. Government offers the opposition posts of leaders and members of local bodies of authority. The document emphasized that the presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the D.R.A. and the country's government gave powers to opposition groups to set up local government bodies in villages, districts and regions and ensure security there.

The message urged opposition groups to work toward ensuring peace and security at the local level and establish regions of peace. The D.R.A. Government pledged to render all-round assistance to such regions.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS DEPARTURE OF AFGHAN AMBASSADOR

PM311327 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Untitled TASS report under the general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] Dr Habib Mangal, DRA ambassador to the USSR, has left Moscow.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES NEW AFGHAN AMBASSADOR

LD311207 Moscow TASS in English 1147 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 31 TASS -- Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze received Afghanistan's Ambassador in the USSR Mohammadollah Safi today in connection with his forthcoming handing of credentials.

The sides spoke highly of the state of Soviet-Afghan relations which they described as steadily developing and strengthening.

In the conversation, which passed in a cordial and comradely atmosphere, they confirmed the importance of the new constructive steps by the Afghan leadership at the second stage of the policy of national reconciliation in the country.

This policy is winning more and more sections and groups of the Afghan population to its side and has become an integral part of life in the country.

The achievement of a political settlement of the Afghan problem, now entering the decisive stage, is coming nearer and is becoming more and more real.

The processes of national reconciliation and political settlement have made it clear who is a real patriot and sincere friend of Afghanistan and who is blocking the cessation of the bloodshed and peace and accord in Afghanistan.

The sides discussed also matters pertaining to the growth of efficiency of Soviet-Afghan economic cooperation, above all in spheres acquiring prime importance in the conditions of national reconciliation.

SHEVARDNADZE MEETS WITH INDIAN AMBASSADOR

LD011524 Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 1 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R., today received the Ambassador of the Republic of India to the U.S.S.R., Triloki Nath Kaul, on his request. During the meeting the sides discussed certain aspects of Soviet-Indian relations and a number of international problems, including those related to the situation in the Asian and Pacific region.

It was noted that the new Soviet peace initiatives set forth by Mikhail Gorbachev in his interview to the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA open broad prospects for ensuring peace and security in that region and the world as a whole.

The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and complete mutual understanding.

ATTEMPTS TO REPLACE RAJIV GANDHI REPORTED

LD011509 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] New Delhi August 1 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Vladimir Baydashin:

The first week of the monsoon session of the Indian Parliament has shown that opposition intends to clash with the government of the ruling Indian National Congress (I) Party. The pretext for the malicious attacks against the government and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi personally were the press reports on financial abuses made in concluding contracts with a number of West European companies along the lines [as received] of India's Defence Ministry and that some political figures have "secret" accounts in Swiss banks. Albeit a number of military contracts was concluded even before Rajiv Gandhi came to power, opposition parties nevertheless say that the head of government and the ruling party could not but know about the abuses.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has resolutely rejected that demarche of the opposition. The public opinion poll carried out in mid-July by the newspaper TIMES OF INDIA nation-wide has shown that a majority of the country's population evaluates positively on the whole the activities of Rajiv Gandhi as prime minister.

One of the arguments of opposition against the central government is that violent actions are continuing in the country, including the terror campaign staged by the Sikh extremists and unrest on religious-communal grounds. The authorities were forced to introduce presidential rule in Punjab and send to that state an additional military force. Yet killings are continuing in Punjab actually every day. The campaign of terror against the Hindus has also swept Haryana state and New Delhi. The aim of the extremists is obvious. It is to instigate the Hindus to retaliatory actions and stir up mass unrest.

Facts are irrefutable proof that behind the actions of the forces of home reaction are foreign forces. The usually well-informed Bombay-based "BLITZ" weekly published today a letter from the late U.S. CIA chief William Casey to director of the reactionary American organization Heritage Foundation, from which it follows that acting on the instructions of the espionage department at that "brain centre" the American ultras are drawing up plans to destabilise the situation in India with the specific aim of removing Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi from the political arena. To that end they in Washington are forecasting plans for levelling a series of accusations against Rajiv Gandhi and his closest entourage "of involvement in corruption and other offences" in order to kindle at an opportune time internal unrest in India. On the basis of an analysis of the facts "BLITZ" stresses that the U.S. CIA is responsible for the current unrest in India, whose aim is to overthrow Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

SITUATION IN SUDAN 'REMAINS COMPLICATED'

LD301416 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 30 Jul 87

[Text] Cairo July 30 TASS -- The political situation in the Sudan remains complicated. A law published in Khartoum vests the authorities with special powers in the light of the state of emergency introduced in the country. The MENA news agency reports that the law gives relevant bodies the right to make preventive arrests of persons suspected of undermining public security. The law makes for confiscation of newspapers, the publication of which contradicts the state of emergency conditions, bans strikes and mass assemblies. Any trading enterprises which violates trade rules may be closed. Police has been given the right to make on its own discretion searches on land plots and inside buildings. Extraordinary tribunals were formed in the country which will pass death or life sentences on persons who have committed dangerous crimes.

Secretary General of the National Islamic Front Hassan Al-Turabi has declared the intention to put up resistance to the authorities' actions. He said that the state of emergency in the country was "unwarranted" and accused the government of "being unable to ensure compliance with law and order through usual methods."

The Union of Students of Khartoum University qualified the authorities' decision as "the violation of civil rights and liberties." The union's leadership called upon the Constituent assembly to turn down the state of emergency law which, in their opinion, testifies to "the failure of the ruling circles' attempt to deal with anarchy and corruption."

A big student demonstration was held in Shandi, Central Sudan, yesterday. According to the newspaper AL-RAYAH, police opened fire, one person was wounded. A mass demonstration was also held in Atbara. The demonstrators protested against heavy living conditions. The situation in the capital of the Sudan is calm.

PROTEST LODGED WITH ZAIRE OVER EXPULSION ORDERS

LD011429 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1403 GMT 1 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow, 1 Aug (TASS) -- On 31 July the Zairian authorities perpetrated yet another anti-Soviet provocation.

Three employees of the Soviet Embassy in Kinshasa -- First Secretary Yu. D. Churyanov and V.M. Zotov and I.A. Ivanov, two technical personnel -- were declared persona non grata. They were asked to leave the territory of Zaire within 48 hours. This silly escapade is accompanied by false claims about Zaire's counterintelligence service succeeding in discovering "an espionage network of the Soviet secret services" and about a "top Russian spy" being caught redhanded. It is difficult to think of anything more absurd. But if imagination is lacking one has to have recourse to such clumsy tricks in order to cloud Soviet-Zairian relations and once again hinder their development. To confirm their invention in some way, the Zairian authorities could think up nothing better than to detain and keep under arrest for more than 24 hours I.A. Ivanov, the maintenance manager [Zavkhoz] of the Soviet diplomatic representation in Kinshasa, who was moving old and broken embassy furniture from one place to another. The Zairian authorities, it seems, are still considering how to link this furniture with the work of the two other Soviet Embassy officials, and meanwhile they are making up various stories.

The objective of this crudely concocted provocation is obvious. It is spearheaded against Soviet-Zairian cooperation. This type of tactic is not new to the Zairian authorities; they resort to it every time relations between the two countries begin to improve. It is obvious that some people inside and outside Zaire -- those behind these provocations -- do not like it when good prospects appear in relations between the USSR and Zaire.

A firm protest has been lodged with the Zairian authorities over these groundless actions. Naturally, the Soviet Union cannot allow such anti-Soviet escapades to go unanswered, although it hopes that in Zaire, too, reason will prevail in the end.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON BRUTENTS VISIT TO ETHIOPIA

PM291555 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading: "At the Invitation of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 25 Jul -- Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee and chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, has had a meeting here with K.N. Brutents, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and personal representative of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. A message from M.S. Gorbachev was handed to Mengistu Haile Mariam.

During the talks, held in a warm, friendly atmosphere, the WPE Central Committee general secretary was briefed on the results of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum. Mengistu Haile Mariam declared that the restructuring under way in the Soviet Union is leading to the full revelation of socialism's creative potential and historic advantages and is of great international significance.

There was also an exchange of opinions on some questions of the international situation and Soviet-Ethiopian relations. The desire to further strengthen cooperation between the Soviet Union and Socialist Ethiopia and between the CPSU and the WPE was expressed.

PRAVDA PROFILES MOZAMBIQUE'S CHISSANO BEFORE VISIT

PM030916 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Aug 87 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed profile under the rubric "On a Visit to the Soviet Union" Headline "Joaquim Alberto Chissano, Chairman of the Frelimo Party and President of the People's Republic of Mozambique"]

[Excerpts] Joaquim Alberto Chissano, chairman of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, arrives in Moscow today for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership. [passage omitted]

In the conditions of the continuing subversive activity of the forces of domestic and foreign reaction, Mozambique's leadership, headed by J. Chissano, pursues a course of resolving in the people's interests the complex problems facing the country today. The party's long-term objective is to build the foundations of a socialist society in Mozambique.

In the international arena Mozambique adheres to a policy of nonalignment, advocates friendship and cooperation with all peoples and the strengthening of peace and international security, and supports the USSR's peace initiatives.

The Soviet people cordially welcome the arrival in the USSR of Joaquim Alberto Chissano, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of Mozambique, and express confidence that his visit to our country will serve the cause of further strengthening Soviet-Mozambique friendship and fruitful cooperation between the CPSU and the Frelimo party and between the Soviet Union and Mozambique, in the interests of both countries' peoples and the strengthening of universal peace.

GORBACHEV RECEIVES TELEGRAM FROM POLISH LEADERS

LD312254 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 31 Jul 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrades Gorbachev, Gromyko, and Ryzhkov have received a telegram from Comrades Jaruzelski and Messner, the leaders of the Polish People's Republic, in which they express their thanks for the greetings and wishes on the occasion of the national holiday, the 43d anniversary of Poland's rebirth.

The telegram expresses their intention to continue to consistently strengthen fraternal friendship and develop all-round cooperation with the USSR for the good of our countries and peoples and in the interests of strengthening socialism and peace.

GDR'S HONECKER ENDORSES SOVIET INF PROPOSALS

PM311401 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Urgent Task"]

[Text] Berlin, 28 Jul -- The Soviet Union's new disarmament initiatives have given an important boost to the Soviet-U.S. Geneva talks on medium-range and operational missiles. This was stated in Leipzig by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State.

The world, he said, has once again witnessed the constructiveness and readiness for compromise with which the Warsaw Pact states are turning their program to strengthen peace and disarmament into practical steps.

We fully agree, the GDR leader noted, with M.S. Gorbachev's proposals and express our boundless desire to achieve a peaceful future for present and future generations. There is no more urgent task today than delivering mankind from nuclear catastrophe. We once again express our resolve to do everything necessary to ensure that a war will never again start on German soil.

TASS REPORTS END OF JOINT EXERCISES IN GDR

LD312000 Moscow TASS in English 1609 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 31 TASS -- Joint exercises of the group of Soviet troops in Germany and the National People's Army of the GDR ended today.

Troop control and interaction of various services were practised in the course of the exercises. According to the command of the exercises they were instructive and demonstrated an increased level of the field training of troops.

The aims set by the exercises were achieved and the troops that took part in them are returning to the places of their permanent deployment.

Observers from member countries of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe were present at the exercises. They were invited in accordance with an accord reached at the Stockholm Conference.

IZVESTIYA CITES BULGARIAN PAPER ON CORRUPTION

PM291025 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by correspondent V. Zakharko under the "Round the Pages of the Foreign Press" rubric: "Against Corruption"]

[Text] Sofia -- "Corruption and Ways of Eradicating It" -- an article under this headline was published in the latest issue of the BCP Central Committee journal POLITICHESKI PROSVET.

Recalling that the 13th BCP Congress last year pointed to certain negative phenomena in Bulgarian society, the author of the articles, Candidate of Juridical Sciences Baycho Panev, writes: Crimes of corruption, primarily the bribing of officials, present a particular danger.

Many abuses have been revealed in foreign economic activity. Corruption has also become widespread in sports, especially soccer. But it is manifested most frequently in resolving housing questions and in commodity exchange.

It would be wrong, the author continues, to explain corruption only as a legacy of the old system. Its persistence and even growth in certain periods shows that it is also finding favorable soil under present conditions. It is prompted by the lack of sufficiently clear regulation of relations between organizations and between organizations and citizens and by substantial weaknesses in reporting and control. Public interests do not always coincide with the interests of individual collectives and citizens, especially in distributing benefits. The shortage of goods and services is having an effect.

The socialist state, the article says, has assumed numerous and varied tasks to satisfy the population's requirements: production, trade, construction, public transport, consumer and cultural services, and so forth. The centralization of all this activity has made citizens dependent on specific services and many officials. They solve a person's vitally important problems -- his employment and social status, the maintenance of his family, the provision of housing, education and vocational training. The lack of principle which sometimes appears in solving these problems also leads to various forms of corruption.

The author of the article includes among the factors which generate corruption the substantial difference in the personal prosperity of individual groups of the population and their differing degrees of access to public funds. This, in addition to the lack of faith which some people have in the effectiveness of the principle of social justice, lies at the basis of the desire now becoming widespread to achieve the maximum benefits by any means. Not content with their income from the labor, many officials convicted recently had taken bribes for the acquisition of automobiles, the construction of dachas, and trips abroad.

It must be admitted, the article continues, that the growing social diversity in society intensifies the existing stratum of people who in fact have a privileged position. What is provided to a representative of this stratus "as of right," without any efforts, and at worst through a telephone call, a person of different, lowlier social status has to achieve with great difficulty with the aid of legitimate and illegitimate means, including bribery. On the other hand privileges generate a sense of invulnerability and promote the assertion of elitist sentiments. This is one of the prerequisites for the corruption of people invested with power and public trust.

It is true, B. Panev continues, that leveling down is alien to socialism, that the varying nature of labor also presupposes a difference in personal incomes and the satisfaction of needs, but we cannot accept as the norm the existence in one society of "millionaires" and of families living on a pittance.

Speaking of ways to eliminate corruption, the article's author emphasizes that they lie in the mainstream of the work which the BCP and the socialist states are now performing for the eradication of negative phenomena and the further comprehensive solution of economic and social problems in the country. The article expresses the conviction that the transition which has begun in the country toward self-management and the expansion of democracy, including the appointment of leaders through election, will help to increase people's civic activeness and to create an atmosphere of public intolerance of deviations from the norms of socialist morality and of those who parasitize citizens' vital interests.

U.S. PUTS 'PRESSURE' ON BRITAIN FOR MINESWEEPERS

LD311422 Moscow TASS in English 1255 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] London July 31 TASS -- U.S. Ambassador Charles Price met in London on Thursday with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe. The sides discussed at the meeting, as a spokesman for the British Foreign Office said, the question of the dispatch of British minesweepers to the Persian Gulf Zone. He stressed that the British Government would most seriously examine the U.S. message. Washington's pressure on Britain designed to make the latter an accomplice in building up tensions in the Persian Gulf caused alarm among the local MPs. As the shadow Foreign Secretary of the British Labour Party Gerald Kaufman said, Britain should not permit being drawn into the war in that area and follow into the footsteps of President Reagan.

British Decline Request

LD010256 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1720 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] London, 31 Jul (TASS) -- The British Government has refused to send British minesweepers into the Persian Gulf. As a Foreign Office spokesman announced today, "in the present circumstances" Britain has no such plans. He added that the British Government is keeping a watchful eye on the situation in the Gulf region and the existing threat to shipping there.

The Reagan administration clearly counted on the participation of Britain in whipping up tension in the Persian Gulf. This aroused serious anxiety on the banks of the Thames. Citing diplomatic sources, REUTER reported that during a meeting with U.S. Ambassador G. Howe, the British foreign secretary warned the United States against turning to Britain with an "official public request" to send British sweepers into the Persian Gulf. Observers have drawn attention to the fact that despite U.S. pressure, the present Tory government has on this occasion refused to toe the Washington line and assist in carrying out Washington's adventurist designs.

KUSNETSOV DERIDES NORWEGIAN CLAIMS OF ESPIONAGE

PM030825 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 25 Jul 87 First Edition p 3

[S. Kuznetsov "Rejoinder": "Who Is Spying on Whom"]

[Text] REUTER is sounding the alarm. This time it's about Norway, which, we are assured, according to "Western intelligence specialist, is an important target of espionage."

But who is spying on the Norwegians? What a question -- the crafty Russians, of course. At least, so Ornulf Tofte, recently retired chief of Norwegian counterintelligence, asserts. In his opinion, "Norway's significance has increased as a result of the presence of the Soviet strategic submarine fleet on the Kola Peninsula." In a time of crisis the Soviet Navy can leave Murmansk and cut off communications in the Atlantic, and nuclear submarines will slip out of their base to sail the oceans," Tofte says menacingly. In addition, in his opinion, the staff of the Soviet Embassy in Oslo "is greatly inflated." "Trade between Norway and the Soviet Union is not all that great. They do not need so many people," the retired spy-catcher thinks.

Why have people begun frightening the Norwegians with mythical Soviet spies? The explanation is quite simple. Certain circles in the West are seriously worried that the large-scale peace initiatives our country has been vigorously putting forward recently are meeting with a growing response from the population of the NATO countries, including Norway. As a poll conducted recently by Norwegian state broadcasting has shown, more than one-third of Norwegians "trust Gorbachev more than Reagan." Less than one-fourth of those questioned hold the opposite opinion.

As for spies, they are not to be found where they are being sought. As the same Tofte admits, "there are intelligence officers in the Western embassies who watch certain aspects of Norwegian policy." This, in particular, applies to Norway's refusal to allow the siting on its territory of foreign troops and nuclear weapons, and also to the condemnation by Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland of the "Star Wars" plans.

FRG TRADE UNION DELEGATION VISITS MOSCOW

Union Issues Discussed

PM311309 Moscow TRUD in Russian 28 Jul 87 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Talks Begun"]

[Text] A delegation of the leadership of the FRG's German Trade Union Federation [DGB] headed by DGB Chairman E. Breit is continuing its official visit to our country.

A Soviet trade union delegation headed by AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev began talks with the DGB delegation in the Palace of Labor. During the talks there was a detailed exchange of opinions on very important questions of the activities of the two countries' trade unions. The AUCCTU delegation spoke about the processes of the socioeconomic transformations taking place in our country. The leaders of the West German trade unions were briefed on the implementation of the reform of economic management, the transfer of industrial enterprises and associations to full economic accountability [khozyaystvennyy rashect], and the changes in the system of planning and price formation. The tasks of trade union organizations under conditions of restructuring were expounded, particularly with regard to improving labor organization, the management of enterprises, and the accelerated development of the social sphere.

For its part the DGB delegation evaluated the activities of FRG trade unions in the situation of the monopolies' increasing offensive against the social and democratic gains of the working people and their professional organizations. The importance of combating unemployment, resolving social problems connected with the introduction of new equipment and technology, and protecting the environment was especially emphasized.

The talks will be continued.

The West German trade union delegation has flown to Novosibirsk.

Meets With Dobrynin, Shalayev

PM301516 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation at the CPSU Central Committree"]

[Text] A meeting took place 29 July between A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and S.A. Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU, and a delegation of the Associated German Trade Unions (FRG), which includes E. Breit, chairman of the association, I. Blaettel and H. Teitzel, members of the executive committee of the federal board, and E. Kristoffersen, chief of the international section. The delegation is in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet trade unions.

During the meeting questions of the struggle against the nuclear threat and for mankind's survival, for effective measures in the disarmament sphere, and for an improvement in the working people's situation were discussed. There was an exchange of opinions on problems of Soviet-West German relations.

It was noted that trade unions of different orientations are making a great contribution, and in future could make a still greater one, to the resolution of the global problems facing mankind. Cooperation among trade unions of various countries is an important factor in the development of mutual understanding and trust between peoples.

The delegation showed a keen interest in the restructuring processes taking place in the Soviet Union. The delegation was briefed on the results of the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum, and it was stressed that the restructuring is the best confirmation that the Soviet Union has no other intentions than peaceful creation.

Taking part in the talk, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, were V.S. Shaposhnikov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and G.I. Yanayev, secretary of the AUCCTU.

DPA Carries Report on Meeting

LD311353 Hamburg DPA in German 1228 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow (DPA) -- The chairman of the German Trade Union Federation [DGB], Ernest Briet, does not exclude the possibility of conflicts of interest between the management and workers in Soviet enterprises. Above all, differing interests could rise over the adjustment of the enterprises in line with economic accounting and over the partial use of profits, Briet told journalists in Moscow on Friday.

Briet arrived in the Soviet Union last Saturday at the head of a DGB delegation for a 1-week visit. He spoke to, among others, the Soviet Trade Union Chairman Stepan Shalayev and Central Committee Secretary Anatoliy Dobrynin. Breit was accompanied by executive members Irmgard Blaettel and Helmut Teitzel as well as Erwin Kristoffersen head of the DGB Foreign Relations Department.

During his talks mention was made again and again of the changed role of the trade unions in the USSR. They would have to fight more in the future for the direct interests of the workers. The USSR trade unionist did not preclude temporary unemployment in the course of rationalization of the economy, but he wanted to avoid it by timely retraining measures and greater development of the service sector.

His interlocutors showed great interest in an exchange of experiences with FRG trade unions, above all on questions of worker participation. Breit said that the two sides agreed on specific measures in this regard. Thus, joint seminars on environmental and technology policy and two other specialist seminars on issues of participation in management are soon to be arranged.

In some enterprises, the DGB chief said, he had already seen real results of the Soviet policy of reconstruction. Admittedly the precise changes were not yet clear in all spheres, for example, in the planned price and wage reform. Prices in the Soviet Union are to be free in part, but in some sectors prices will continue to be fixed by the state. In most factories, wages are to be made dependent above all on performance.

With Central Committee Secretary Dobrynin he spoke about disarmament, the situation of trade unionists in Poland, the Soviet Union's emigration policy, and other issues. Dobrynin said once again that Moscow does not understand the FRG Government's stance on Pershing-1A missiles.

SDP'S VOGEL COMMENTS ON PERSHING MISSILES IN FRG

LD311918 Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Bonn July 31 TASS -- The move to dismantle 72 Bundeswehr Pershing-1A missiles with U.S. nuclear warheads will by no means damage West German security, Hans-Jochen Vogel, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, said in an interview published by today's issue of the newspaper "DIE WELT".

The West German Government should renounce as soon as possible the role of a break in the cause of nuclear disarmament since Pershings-1A are a serious impediment to the realization of the "double zero option" in the field of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, he said.

Bonn's stand increases suspicion that the West German Government does not wish progress in concrete disarmament.

Responding to a question on the recent statements by Max Kampelman, chief U.S. negotiator at the Geneva talks on nuclear and space armament, to the effect that the issue of the missiles should be decided exclusively by the West German Government, Vogel noted that Bonn was placed in a situation whereby it should decide itself whether he would make it easier to achieve progress in nuclear disarmament or intended to prevent it.

YAZOV GREETS RAUL CASTRO ON MONCADA ANNIVERSARY

PM301439 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jul 87 First Edition p 1

[Defense Minister Yazov greetings message to Cuban counterpart]

[Text] To Army General Raul Castro Ruz, Cuban minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces

Esteemed Comrade Minister!

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own behalf I cordially congratulate you and all Cuban servicemen on the revolutionary holiday -- National Rebellion Day.

The heroic exploit of the participants in the storming of the Moncada barracks, which was the prologue to the revolution that triumphed in 1959, serves as an inspiring example to Cuba's Revolutionary Armed Forces, which reliably guard the Cuban people's revolutionary gains.

On this significant day I sincerely wish Revolutionary Armed Forces personnel new successes in resolving the tasks to further strengthen the country's defense capability set by the Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba.

May the indestructible collaboration between the Armed Forces of the USSR and Cuba strengthen and develop.

With communist greetings
Army General D. Yazov, USSR Minister of Defense

PANAMA GOVERNMENT PROTESTS U.S. 'INTERFERENCE'

LD301233 Moscow TASS in English 1207 GMT 30 Jul 87

[Text] Panama City July 30 TASS -- The Government of Panama has firmly denounced the United States' interference in internal affairs of the country. A note of Panama's Foreign Ministry, handed over to the American Embassy on Wednesday, says that diplomatic privileges and immunity do not give U.S. diplomats the right to criticize in public actions of the authorities of the host country. What are meant are instigative statements by officials of the U.S. Embassy who accused Panama's Government of "suppressing the freedom of the press" and "infringing upon democracy". The accusations came in the wake of the Panamanian authorities' actions in stopping provocative actions of the right-wing opposition who provoked numerous disorders in the country.

The attempts of U.S. officials to discredit the measures of the Government of Panama are "inadmissible interference" into Panama's affairs and aimed at undermining the prestige of the leadership of the Republic, says the note of Panama's Foreign Ministry.

These and the like statements will be considered as "hostile actions against the Panamanian Government", runs the note of the Foreign Ministry. The authorities also warned foreign correspondents, above all American, accredited in the country, that they would be held responsible for transmitting tendentious information distorting the real state of affairs in Panama.

BRAZILIAN MINISTER RECEIVES CPSU DELEGATION

PM231011 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "At the Brazilian Communist Party Congress"]

[Text] Brasilia, 19 Jul -- At the Eighth Brazilian Communist Party [PCB] Congress, which is continuing its work here, the delegates approved a resolution on the activities of the PCB leadership. It was decided, in particular, to convene the Ninth PCB Congress after the adoption of the country's new constitution, which is now being debated in Brazil's National Constituent Assembly.

The CPSU delegation headed by G.P. Bogomyakov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Tyumen CPSU Obkom, which is participating in the work of the congress, had talks with Labor Minister A. Pazzianotto Pinto, who evaluated highly the PCB's contribution to the attainment of democratic freedoms and to the democratization process in Brazil. He emphasized that since the official ban on the PCB's activity was lifted, the PCB has become an inalienable part of the present political structure of the Brazilian society.

PCB Documents Laud USSR Reforms

PM280911 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Fraternal Party Congresses"]

[Text] Brasilia, 20 Jul -- The Eighth PCB Congress has ended here.

The section of the political resolution entitled "On the International Situation" emphasizes in particular that the current acceleration of socioeconomic development in the USSR and the qualitative changes that are taking place there are a most important practical confirmation of the viability of the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism. The consistent efforts of the CPSU and the Soviet state to ensure peace and detente, the document notes, inspire confidence in the planet's peoples that it is realistically possible to achieve their main goal -- to avert a nuclear catastrophe.

At a PCB Central Committee plenum held today, Giocondo Dias was elected the party's honorary chairman, Salomao Malina its general secretary, and Roberto Freire its deputy general secretary.

Delegations of fraternal parties from more than 20 countries -- including a CPSU delegation headed by G.P. Bogomyakov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Tyumen CPSU Obkom -- attended the Congress.

CPSU Delegation Returns

PM280917 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Return"]

[Text] The CPSU delegation comprising G.P. Bogomyakov, CPSU Central Committee member and first secretary of the Tyumen CPSU Obkom (leader), and A.O. Kuprikov, senior official of the CPSU Central Committe International Department, returned to Moscow on 22 July after participating in the Eighth Brazilian Communist Party Congress.

TOLKUNOV WELCOMES GUATEMALAN DELEGATION TO MOSCOW

LD300409 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 29 Jul 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A delegation from the Guatemalan Congress, led by Maldonado, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission, has arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The guests visited the USSR Supreme Soviet today. In welcoming the first parliamentary delegation from Guatemala to the USSR, Tolkunov, chairman of the Council of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, noted that the establishment of Soviet-Guatemalan interparliamentary contacts will aid the development of relations between the two countries. He talked about the restructuring going on in our country and the USSR's peace-loving foreign policy, which is aimed, among other things, at settling regional conflicts.

Our visit to the USSR, the delegation head stressed, is a historic moment for us.

YAKOVLEV INTERVIEWED ON DEMOCRATIZATION, GLASNOST

LD302350 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1840 GMT 30 Jul 87

[Interview with Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, by correspondent Andras Sugar in Moscow, date not given -- recorded; Yakovlev answers in Russian with superimposed Hungarian translation; from the "Face to Face" program]

[Text] [Sugar] We met 63-year-old Aleksandr Yakovlev in the Moscow televsion studio. He has been a party worker for many years. For 10 years he was the Soviet ambassador to Canada, then on his return he became head of the party's Propaganda Department. He accompanied Gorbachev to London, Geneva, and Reykjavik. Since June he has been a member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee.

He has prepared carefully for our questions, which we sent in advance from Budapest and has even brought notes with him. While the assistant is switching on the microphone we will begin the interview.

In my first question I ask him how he views the situation and results, maybe omissions, of Soviet social sceince, looking back over the past 10-20 years.

[Yakovlev] I believe it would not be fair to claim that our social scientists have not worked at all or that they have all completely come to a standstill, that they have become the slaves of stagnation and dogmatism. Many of them tried to view the phenomena of life in their entirety and variety.

Unfortunately, however, these endeavors were merely small drops in the ocean of flattering and artificially scholarly orations. We were late in analyzing those very multifaceted processes which were developing in the living structure of socialism. We made certain precepts relating to socialism absolute. Apart from this, we handled certain practical forms of building socialism in an uncritical way too, which in their own time, developed back in the more or less early stages of social development.

In all probability, we were late with the theoretical elaboration of certain questions and with becoming aware of them too. For example, the question of forms of property, their contradictions in socialism, their significance; the connection between forces of production and production relations; the mutual relations of economic and social aspects; the understanding of the new relations between the individual and society. And we could continue listing the questions.

We also neglected the early indications of many trends in the development of society, particularly in those cases in which this prognosis would have contained something which was unexpected, or which maybe would have been unpleasant for us.

Is science guilty in this? Yes and no. It is guilty because circumstances cannot be blamed, for the scholar at least this is not feasible. Often, without any particular argument or struggle, they surrendered to the bibical way, dogmatism. I would not like to name anyone specifically, in order not to stir up unnecessary emotions, but it really was like this. This is a question of the morality and public openness [kozeletiseg] of the scholar, and this is true for all schools of science.

At the same time, it is not correct either, in my opinion, if they place the responsibility for the position of science, or its present state, exclusively on science. As the saying goes, you do not usually put the bridle on a horse from behind. The determining factor was after all the demand for science, the aspect of demand, if you like, the social commissioning addressed to science, and in a certain period, these commissionings were such that they did not encourage adequately the development of scientific thinking.

[Sugar] The whole world has a high opinion of the perestroyka and glasnost taking place here. These words have entered the vocabulary of many languages, including Hungarian. In what ways do you consider it necessary to transform people's way of thinking in economic science?

[Yakovlev] First, we must banish the view that science is in some ways a means in itself. We must begin to view economic science the way it really must be. We must think within a wider framework, that is: What is the purpose of the plan, what is the market for, why do different forms of ownership exist, and so forth. This must be done in order to make socialism fuller, so that it can develop more dynamically, and so that peoples' lives will be better.

If we put the question this way about the purpose of the debates, about the purpose of the plan and the goals of economic science, then we will also be able to see more clearly the long-term prospects, priorities, tasks, and especially the social meaning of this research. Only by asking these questions, by a longer political yardstick, if you like, can the various kinds of dilemmas of a scientific nature be resolved. A planned economy is not a means in that specific form in various countries.

The peculiarities of the market, profit, money, and nothing else are means in themselves; they are only the means of a socialist society to attain its goals. It is becoming increasingly clear that none of these goals can be regarded as some sort of magic wand which can rescue the economy or give it sudden momentum. They can be regarded as the means, but they cannot solve the main problem; they cannot satisfy man's needs; they cannot raise man's basic moral principles to a higher level, enhance man's spiritual values, and so forth. In the sphere of political-economic science the psychology of destitution still has a significant effect in our scientific approach. For too long we have been counting every kopek, saving every morsel of bread, every little grain of wheat, and every small unit of production. These times have long gone but their psychological effect still lingers in many things. This is where the mystique of gross production results, and where the fascination with figures originates. The hypnotic, if you like, effect of these indicators lies not only in whether they are comfortable or advantageous for someone. I believe the origins of this overall production review, that is, this attitude toward gross figures, are to be sought also in the psychology of destitution which lasted a long time.

[Sugar] You have spoken about the market, which leads me to the next question. Some people express the opinion that Lenin's New Economic Policy, the so-called NEP, was abandoned too early because the sacrifices it demanded were too great and because the state was gaining overall power in society too quickly. How does the party now view the NEP? Which of its aspects are topical and which are not?

[Yakovlev] This policy was justified by the age in which it was practiced. It was appropriate to the specific conditions of that age. Life itself favored this policy.

[Sugar] You mean in favor of NEP?

[Yakovlev] Yes, in favor of NEP. It was dictated and brought to life by the restructuring tasks of that age. You ask me: Did they abandon NEP too early; were the costs and sacrifices too great? Who can answer that? History, as you know, does not know the subjunctive mood. In history you cannot build conclusions on the basis of what would have happened if this or that had taken place. History is history. It was the way it was. But I would say that the NEP methods are valid to the present day. The crux of these methods is that the party is capable of making a very, very significant turn in politics. It is capable of recognizing life's new demands, of evaluating them, capable of seeing the perspectives, capable of rejecting that which yesterday seemed indispensible or which it regarded as indispensible or unquestionable. After all, the turn toward NEP 3-4 years after the revolution was very difficult. There were Communists who as a sign of protest even left the party. Yet the policy proved to be correct; it justified itself. Time and the nature of revolutionary changes justified this policy.

And when today perestroyka is compared sometimes with NEP it is, I believe, correct from the viewpoint of the methodology, the approach taken to resolving the questions and the general outlook. After all, today we are also resolving questions of revolutionary transformation. But we now live in different times: The forces of production are different, the psychology is different, outward appearances are different, and the possibilities are different. Everything is different. So the questions awaiting solution are also different. At the same time I must repeat that the method itself seems very topical indeed.

[Sugar] From the portraits of the old Lenin corps, during the thirties and forties, certain very strong individuals and personalities gradually disappeared. Their names were erased; they were crossed out of books. Well, of these old battle companions of Lenin who were suppressed or unjustifiably forgotten, who should now be rehabilitated? In your opinion, whose so-called deviations in the past are topical at present, what is the [words indistinct] doing in the interests of putting the complete historical truth concerning the 20th century to rights?

[Yakovlev] I think I am not mistaken if I say we are doing all that we can in this sphere. But where does the difficulty of the task lie? Sometimes the matters is depicted such that specialists are viewed as deliberately hiding certain facts from public opinon. I do not claim that this has never happened. But, if this were the only problem, then the matter would be too simple.

[Sugar] You yourself also know that my question does not refer to this.

[Yakovlev] Yes, so it is only a question of opening the archives and there you are. With this, so to speak, everything would be in order. As a matter of fact, in this sense, the problem is becoming less delicate, I would say. Of course, naturally, the discussion of certain topics touches us deeply, but the specialists have known the factual side of the matter for a long time, and the supplemental new facts can hardly lead to an information revolution. I do not say all this at all to justify the policy of half-truths of the policy of keeping things quiet.

I believe that history must be populated by living people. We must remember those who have been forgotten. Their ability, heroic actions, crimes, honest mistakes, or even their malevolence must be evaluated in a fitting way. But, acquiring social and historical knowledge must not turn into a court case. It is my profound belief that history must not be approached with deliberate conscious prejudices, preconceptions, with a predetermined aim to justify certain people, condemn others, and to revalue certain things. In this case, we get a mirror picture of the earlier situation, that which was unblemished, white, now becomes completely black, or vice versa.

[Sugar] Nowadays -- hardly more than 2 years ago -- truth is being righted in perestroyka, in ideology. How satisfied are you with the achievements, the results of this transformation? In your opinion, what still remains to be done and what have you not completed?

[Yakovlev] Maybe my answer to this question will be somewhat unexpected. Well, in general terms, I am satisfied, however uncritical this may sound and however much this may be seen as an uncommon reply from a party worker. For we have become accustomed to criticism and we criticize rather than praise.

Of course, we still have much to do, however. We must rid ourselves, with patient work, of many stereotypes to which we have become accustomed in human consciousness and behavior. I would say that we must strengthen the new socialist ethic, the ethic of initiative, the ethic of positive activity, the ethic of active intervention in life. Perestroyka is intensive development, but it also means more intensive work. Unfortunately, however, we also have a good number of those who have gotten used to making do with a perhaps not too high salary, which they receive purely for turning up at their workplace conscientiously. They have gotten used to the premium as an automatic wage supplement; they have gotten used to embellishing data; they have gotten used to rounding things up. Today, in the period of perestroyka, much depends on changing people's mentality. This is, perhaps, one of the most determining factors, for people's equality in socialism has nothing to do with general equality. This principle must, in its entirety, be put into practice too.

Recently I was in a large works and I spoke to the workers and the leaders. I asked: How do we continue? For the time that lies directly before us will be the most difficult in restructuring. How do they evaluate those possible difficulties which we must overcome? All of them in essence answered this question with one sentence: We must fight against the principle of egalitarianism. This struggle, according to them, will be a difficult one, not only from the structural and economic aspect of the matter, but also vis-a-vis the spiritual side of the matter. It is a question of habits that have become ingrained over a long time, many years.

For this reason, to put it briefly, conscientiously completed work must be made the rule of everyday life. We must eliminate all forms of parasitism. The atmosphere in which the individual is materially interested in everything, in all affairs of the collective and society, must be supported and developed. The political culture of the masses must be significantly developed; a constructive view of the economy must be established.

People nowadays do not really accept things that they would leave without comment before. Restructuring has received the people's support, but today this support is qualitatively new and different from what it was a few years ago. Then the demand was simply for change; they supported the endeavor for something better. The situation now is somewhat different. Now they also understand that this must be worked for. We must work. It is precisely this that makes the present support so valuable.

I would like to cite two examples to illustrate this. Take the institution of state acceptance. This is not a simple matter; it is related to very serious contradictions, and it reduced incomes in some places, too. However, the workers did not demand an end to state acceptance. There were other demands: Let us transform the work more quickly; let us change over to economic methods, so that state acceptance become unnecessary....

[Sugar, interrupting]...that the market should control, the market should return bad products?

[Yakovlev] Of course, naturally. Or, to give another example: Hundreds of thousands of letters now say that perestroyka is not proceeding at a fast enough pace, that it has not yet had enough of an effect on certain collectives, some districts. However, this is also an enormous ideological achievement, that people are worried about perestroyka, they are thinking about life, about progress.

I will not even go into how the atmosphere has changed in culture and in the mass media. Obviously you, too, know and feel this. The number of people who subscribe to the central dailies and periodicals has increased by 14 million.

[Sugar] All the same, it is hard to get a newspaper.

[Yakovlev] Yes, I will not even talk about selling on the street. The social range of people's vision has widened. True, many bitter critical statements are said here but these are not just said, people also think these through. And this is a very important side of the matter. We have drawn far-reaching conclusions. The chasm between the word and the act has been reduced. I do not say that it has definitively ceased, especially not in some places, but it has been significantly reduced.

This was also a serious inner need of society. Without putting right this principle, that is, we are talking about the unity of words and acts, we could hardly count on success, not just in ideology, but also in political activity. In culture, in science, in publicity, the offensive is under way against a dogmatic way of thinking based on the principle of authority. The nimbus of looking at things dogmatically has in essence ceased. The nimbus, but the practice for the moment -- not yet. I think the conditions for spiritual dynamism are strengthening. As a result of this, today we see the past more completely and precisely; and in a truer way, the present; and I think more realistically, the future.

All this, in essence, is the result of openness, the result of democratization. If we wanted to draw together the achievements of the past years in the ideological field, I would say that we have today put an obstacle in the path of those tendencies and processes that in this field generated stagnation. These negative phenomena have stopped. Their neutralization and elimination is under way. Many things that have been built into social consciousness are now irreversible.

[Sugar] Let me now move on to journalistic matters which directly affect us. In the past few decades we have gotten used to writing about things in friendly countries and highlighting everything that is positive, the successes; our friends only have successes. But how can we write about one another and also talk about the shortcomings, the unfavorable phenomena, so the press will be credible, so that people will believe in the press? After all, in every fraternal country there are positive and negative phenomena alike.

[Yakovlev] The question is naturally very complex, and it is an old question, at least 20 years old. Naturally, it is in our joint interest that we should understand socialism as thoroughly as possible, understand its inner nature, and its psychology in the individual countries. It is in our interest to reveal to the maximum degree the difficulties, the objective problems, the mistakes, the failures. You express this correctly. It is also in our interest that we should answer every painful and difficult question ourselves, and that we should not give an opportunity to our political opponents. It is in our interest too that we should know the truth, the whole truth, about ourselves. This is very important. We have to know the real course of every process taking place in world socialism. But these are merely general principles.

In practice there is not, and probably cannot be, any kind of solution which can be used the same way in every case in life. In my view, in every case the important thing is the objective of communications. The tone of articles is very essential; there should be a certain natural tact. What is also essential is who writes, what he writes about, why he writes, and how he presents what he has to say; with what objective, what is between the lines, or what can be assumed as to what this or that journalist is thinking of. However, if we go back to the general principles, then I believe that time demands the expansion of mutual information, and that in giving information we should end the perpetual celebration. The main thing however is that the analysis of phenomena should be more and more thoroughly profound. The responses and the solutions should be seriously explored, because, after all, it is on this path that we must proceed.

[Sugar] The conviction is becoming stronger that economic reform cannot be completely successful if the appropriate changes are not made in the political superstructure of society. In your view, what changes are necessary in the political institutions, in the political superstructure?

[Yakovlev] First and foremost, democratization is needed. Second, democratization, and third, democratization, too. I think there is not and there cannot be any more effective method than this for us to make economic progress to improve people's mood on weekdays as well, to develop the necessary mood in society, or to be more precise, to create this mood. Nothing can be more effective than democracy. One person wants to develop democracy, and the other does not, because it does not coincide with his personal interest. The third person is also on the side of democracy, but for the time being only if that does not affect him personally. He wants democracy for his own sake, that they should deal democratically only with him. While he, of course, does not want to act in accordance with this. Perhaps he cannot do so, either because he is not used to it or he does not know how to do it. Because, you know, when we look at it as outsiders, that people criticize one another, we like that. But when they criticize us, then the situation changes immediately and radically because we are not used to really arguing, and what is more, arguing honorably, listening to one another's opinions. And yet this is very essential, since collective wisdom is always stronger than the view of one person.

For this reason, the matter is not to perfect the system of political institutions alone; instead what is at issue is the shaping of human thinking itself, getting people used to a democratic outlook, to a kind of democratic way of thinking. I mentioned a few days ago here that we have now overthrown the tsars, but we have not yet overthrown the petty monarchs hidden within ourselves. Within all of us there sits some kind of khan, tsar, I might say God Almighty, in other words a sort of power-hungry being. When this starts to take hold, right away appears this inner being who starts to give our orders, to administrate. And it starts to walk not upon our sinful soil but hovers somewhere above it. Such a person already thinks he is wiser, more learned. He starts to make pronouncements, and everyone must listen in awe to his wise thoughts.

Therefore, we have to get used to spiritual, human equality; we have to understand that a person, in the last resort, is only one among millions. If he attains something less than greater office, then this means nothing other than that people trust him and have honored him with their trust. To a certain extent perhaps it shows that they recognize one of his abilities, his talents. But it in no way authorizes him to detach himself from the millions of human beings, to put himself above them. I do not think it would be a simple matter to recognize this; this is a question of outlook. It needs a lot of time, and not just years or decades. And it is not just a question of teaching people, but at the same time it is also a question of economic and social conditions.

Naturally we are now elaborating many new methods and we are also trying them out experimentally in the electoral system and in other respects. For example, we have worked out the enterprise law as a supplement to the law relating to workers collectives. That is to say, we have laid the foundation for democracy in the economy and also in the working people's community.

[Sugar] The freedoms enjoyed by the organizations of creative people have noticeably increased. I am referring to writers and other groups of intellectuals in the USSR. The world's press has reported this. I would like to ask you, the leader of the ideological front, whether it is easier or more difficult to realize party guidance in these creative organizations. What are your new problems? Have your problems multiplied or has the situation become easier?

[Yakovlev] We can say both. Things have become easier and more difficult. But why easier? Because a new moral and political climate has developed in the country, and the spiritual upswing in which the country has been living since the April 1985 session of the Central Committee is present. Things are easier because we have thrown off to a significant extent -- though not yet completely -- the burden of pedantic overregulation that consumed a great deal of time and energy, and which hindered us in finding our way in the processes at the theoretical level. It hindered us in our effort to judge the situation correctly. But life sets increasingly complex tasks before us. Not everything has an answer. It is not always easy to find an answer.

Things are more difficult because we must eliminate certain negative phenomena of the past, which also include phenomena that can be detected among people doing creative work. An example of this is the monopoly situation of certain individuals, groups, and organizations, this entire clique ethos, uncritical flattery, and the paying of compliments in some cases, and unjustified hostility to colleagues in other cases.

The age has also set complex creative and artistic tasks. But, as everyone knows, one must not expect, because of their very nature, immediate results from the arts. This would simply represent an opportunistic outlook.

[Sugar] Please explain to our viewers what you mean by that.

[Yakovlev] There are people who, how shall I put it, are very quick to adapt to new circumstances. I am referring to the arts. New plays, films, and short stories appear at breakneck speed. In general, they appear to be topical. In their form, they meet, you could say, the requirements of the age: They react to the present day. But a work of art is not a newspaper article that exists for 1 or a few days.

Regarding party guidance, what we consider the most important here is to support the most talented. I would not even like to call this party guidance because this sounds somewhat dry, formal. And this is not simply a method -- this is life itself, the essence of the spirit of perestroyka in the given field.

New relationships are formed with the intelligentsia, that is, a relationship and an exchange of opinions; an equal exchange of opinions -- identical interest, identical responsibility, identical awareness.

[Sugar] Lenin said -- and Mikhail Gorbachev repeated it not long ago in Romania, if I am not mistaken -- that there is a need for a great deal of tact and circumspection in nationality policy. Recently, the case of Kazakhstan has become well-known throughout the world when the nationality question came into sharp focus. What, in your opinion, is happening in the USSR now in order to better and more effectively implement the nationality policy in practice?

[Yakovlev] This is perfectly true. The nationality policy requires, much more than anything else, special tact and extreme circumspection and sensitivity. This question must not only be understood but it must, if you like, be felt. It must be felt in our soul, heart, and through our skin. It is beyond doubt that when any kind of friction starts to develop regarding the nationalities, this can swell into an avalanche irrespective of the efforts or wishes of this or that person.

For whenever national identity or nationality is mentioned, it immediately touches on such matters as the fate of culture, the entire past, the mother tongue, customs. People always react to this very emotionally, with increased anxiety and, if I may put it this way, with increased sensitivity.

At the same time, our country is a completely unique confederation of nations. It is unique. Our togetherness, the unity, is also unique. This is my opinion, and there is no doubt that this unity will be strengthened in the future.

But this in no way means that the tissue of the common life of the many nations and nationalities -- their living tissue, the common building blocks -- does not bring its own problems to the surface.

As for the events in Alma-Ata, I do not think that they give cause, with their extent or significance, to panic. Western propagandists began to write a day or two after the events in Alma-Ata about the deployment of the Army, about tanks and several hundred dead. But this was a lie, nothing of the sort happened.

It is true that hooligans there killed two people: a police volunteer and a bus driver who refused to carry the demonstrators. What is the breeding ground for such phenomena? When we talk of Kazakhstan I think they were caused there by the concrete situation -- the social errors, the numerous violations of social justice.

The danger of nationalism must not be underestimated in any of its manifestations in any country, not even our own. But here I would emphasize the following aspects of the matter: It is very harmful to transform the question or fight against nationalism into some kind of campaign, to show impatience or give room to excesses.

[Sugar] You have worked for many years in foreign policy. You were a very successful ambassador for the USSR in Canada. Many people in the world know this. For this reason, you probably have a very decided and developed view of how Soviet foreign policy should be conducted. In what do you see the essence of the changes that have ensued in the practical realization of Soviet foreign policy, in its methods, in its style? I am thinking of the processes now taking place that are usually described with the words perestroyka, glasnost.

[Yakovlev] First of all, thank you for the compliment.

[Sugar] It is not a compliment.

[Yakovlev] I am not sure whether or not I deserved it. I avail myself of the opportunity to wish all the best to my colleagues, the Hungarian diplomats who have served with me abroad. Our work together was always marked by good understanding, and we helped one another, and for me this is also part of the experiences gained abroad.

In our age, at present, our policy has gone through changes, and what is more, changes of principled significance, and this is natural in the circumstances of a changing world. For perestroyka, restructuring, has directed attention to the Soviet Union. Essentially this is also well known. Perestroyka has weakened the effect of the anti-Communist, anti-Soviet stereotypes. These stereotypes have been created by Western propaganda, first and foremost U.S. propaganda. However, let us not exaggerate, those stereotypes, of course, are far from ineffective. They do have an effect. At times they freshen them up with certain new fabrications, with fictions. And no doubt this will not be any different in the future, either.

Insofar as the West is concerned, they are obliged to a certain extent to reexamine, to reevaluate, the prospects of their relations toward us, especially the perspectives of our development. Three or 4 years ago, the ruling opinion was that: Here you are, the Soviet Union has entered a period of prolonged stagnation; therfore, you must begin from this point in relations with it; you cannot expect anything serious from the viewpoint of the international situation. For this reason, there was no need to pay special attention to the Soviet Union, outside of its military force.

Now, on the other hand, everything has changed. Now they must acknowledge the political, economic, psychological, and social aspects of life in the Soviet Union -- in the socialist community. For this reason, our foreign policy now takes into consideration not only our own interests but also the interests of the world, in a civilized manner. It calls on us to break away from national selfishness, from national interests, to rise above the momentary contradictions and to see the supreme tasks facing mankind -- the saving of mankind. It calls for renouncing imperialistic ambitions; it calls for a civilized attitude in the international arena. But it also calls for evaluating the opponent realistically, to reckon with the views of the opponent, on an equal basis, seeking compromises, keeping their interests in view, and even if it is a question of bilateral relations, always keeping in mind the world's interests.

This policy, this new way of thinking, calls on every state to think about the consequences of its actions, and not only that in a given case: Should I defend my interests, and (?if) this violates my own prestige, my oil, or other interests. And who is to think about the consequences such conduct might lead to?

This outlook, which indicates a higher level of refinement in international relations, must be more and more present in the actions of states, of persons, of politicians, of parties. In our age, in the nuclear age, when danger really exists, real danger, foreign policy must not be left only to the politicians, to individual groups, individual governments, individual parties. It is necessary for people to become more active -- they should decide their own destiny. For what is at issue is that the stakes are very high, very high. It is a question involving extremely serious matters. I think that here, too, we have common tasks, and these are very significant, very significant.

Now, if you have no more questions, I would like to say thank you to the listeners. I would like to wish them all the best in life -- most of all, good health, mainly good health, to all my Hungarian friends, comrades, to everyone who is now listening to me.

[Sugar] Thank you very much.

TATAR LEADERS REPORTEDLY FORCIBLY FLOWN HOME

AU311113 Paris AFP in English 1059 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Excerpt] Moscow, July 31 (AFP) -- Twelve of 21 leaders of Tatars seeking to have their community allowed to return to its Crimean homeland were on Thursday flown back to Central Asia, Tatar spokesman Remzi Abdul Mdzhitov said here on Friday.

"They were prevented from demonstrating and were sent back home by plane to Tashkent," in the Uzbekistan Republic, and to other destinations in Central Asia, Mr. Mdzhitov said.

"In fact, only five of the group of 21 are here, and we do not know where the other (four leaders) are," Mr. Mdzhitov said.

He said however that a new leadership would be elected to launch further demonstrations aimed at obtaining permission for the Tatars to return to the Black Sea region from which Stalin deported them massively in 1944.

Mr. Mdzhitov also said that Soviet police had told them that from now on the nearly 400 Tatars who have been staging demonstrations here since July 22 would only be allowed to meet at the Izmaylovo park in northeastern Moscow.

Among those flown back home were the Tatars' principal leaders, Mr. Mdzhitov said, naming them as Sabri Seutova, Fuat Abliamitov, Reshat Dzhemilev, and Bekir Umerov. None of them was at the entrance to the Izmaylovo park Friday. [passage omitted]

Tatar Interviewed

LD311431 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 31 Jul 87

[Text] Simferopol July 31 TASS -- The attempts at deciding the fate of the Crimean Tatars by appealing to anti-Soviet circles abroad have been condemned by Amet Abibulayev, a 80-year old Second World War veteran from the village of Chernopolye of the Crimean region.

It gives me pain to recall the brutality shown by the henchmen of the Nazi occupiers from among the nationalist Crimean Tatars in making short shrift of the peaceful population, he told a TASS correspondent. I also remember the trails of the butchers: The proofs of their crimes were irrefutable. This cannot be denied.

Yet there were thousands of other Crimean Tatars. They went to the front to fight against the Nazis, were among the guerrilla detachments. A bronze bust has been installed in the Crimean township of Alupka to Amet-Khan Sultan, a Tatar twice Hero of the Soviet Union. During the war he downed 49 enemy aircraft.

The third day after the Nazi Germany's attack against the Soviet Union I volunteered to the Army and was sent to the front, Abibulayev continued. I was a machine-gunner and took part in the defence of Odessa and Sevastopol.

I can tell you frankly: It was psychologically not that simple for me to return to my native parts. But these are, so to say, grievances of the past. Now four of my children live in the Crimea. I have twenty grandchildren. Some of them work on a local collective farm. Several other Tatar familes have also settled here.

I am an old man and I know that breaking things is easier than restoring them. It will take time to settle our problems. I believe it right that an authoritative commission has been set up to resolve them. I expect from it well-considered decisions.

Those who are now banking on "Western assistance" would also be well-advised to show wisdom and restraint. The future of the Crimean Tatars is an internal affair of the USSR, and we will be able to settle these problems ourselves.

Commission Welcomed

LD030943 Moscow TASS in English 0927 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Text] Alma-Ata August 3 TASS -- "Like most Crimean Tatars living in Kazakhstan, I welcome the creation of a competent government commission to consider the entire range of issues concerning our people," Ruzhdiy Polyakh, chief physician at the Dzhambul production amalgamation Khimprom (Soviet Kazakhstan), has told a TASS correspondent.

The results of the commission's work, he believed, would put an end to conjectures and the attempts by certain irresponsible individuals to whip up a conflict situation.

"I have no doubt that the commission's conclusions will be thoroughly weighed and fair," Polyakh said.

He expressed indignation over the clamour raised by some Western radio stations over the alleged violation of rights of the Crimean Tatars.

"The example of my family refutes these claims. I'm a candidate of sciences (medicine) and head medical services at a major enterprise.

"One of my sons has become a physician, the other an engineer.

"There was no discrimination in the choice of occupation or in finding a job."

"This (discrimination) does not affect our everyday life either. My family, for example, has just moved into a new, larger flat.

"My relatives and friends enjoy their life too."

Polyakh often visits the Crimea. He finds pleasure in hearing good words about his father, Veliy Polyakh, one of the top officials in the Crimea in the thirties, from the local Russians, Ukrainians and Greeks.

Speaking of the war-time events when some Tatars actively collaborated with the Nazis occupying the Crimea, Polyakh recalled that fascist collaborationists launched repressions not only against Russians and Ukrainians but also against Tatars opposed to the occupation.

The parents of Polyakh's wife lived in a village that was burnt completely by the nationalists.

"There is no way to put the clock back. There were many honest people among the Crimean Tatars. There were also, regrettably, quite a number of traitors," he said.

DEPUTY MINISTER ANNOUNCES NEW EDUCATION PLANS

LD300951 Moscow TASS in English 0910 GMT 30 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 30 TASS -- Secondary schools in the Soviet Union are going to give students the right to choose between differentiated curricula in senior classes. Depending on their inclinations, young people will be able to study fundamentals of physics and mathematics, natural sciences or the humanities, as well as subjects in the field of aesthetics and the arts. It is the substance of the new plan of instructional work, so far experimental, drawn up by the Ministry of Education and the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of the U.S.S.R.

The number of obligatory subjects will drop from 22 to 15. The purpose is to ease students' load and give them more time for rest, sports and developing creative abilities. Vladimir Shadrikov, a deputy minister of education of the U.S.S.R., told a TASS correspondent.

More attention will be devoted to the humanities. For instance, it is planned to introduce a course, right from the first grade, the purpose of which is to foster in children a noble and respectful attitude to nature, society and man.

Instruction in foreign languages will be offered from the first grade to the ninth -- for two or three hours weekly. This is much more than at present.

The new instructional plan is to be published soon in teacher's newspapers and magazines for wide-scale discussion. At present a contest for selecting text books and manuals is under way with more than 200 groups of authors and taking part.

SHAPIRO REPLACED AS JEWISH REGION FIRST SECRETARY

LD300900 Moscow TASS in English 0652 GMT 30 Jul 87

[Text] Birobidjan July 30 TASS -- A plenary meeting of the regional CPSU Committee of the Jewish Autonomous Region considered an organisational question today. Lev Shapiro was relieved of his duties of first secretary of the regional CPSU Committee because of his retirement.

Boris Korsunskiy, the former second secretary, was elected to the post of first secretary.

MEDIA REPORT 25-28 JULY AGRICULTURAL NOTES

LD010055 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 25-28 July. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

25 July -- The rural workers of Dzhambul Oblast have fulfilled their plan for the sale of grain to the state. Every hectare yields 22 quintals of grain instead of the planned 13.4 quintals. (1300)

26 July -- The first million tonnes of grain of the new harvest has been procured by the rural workers of Kuban. (1300)

27 July -- The harvesting of early grain crops started in Kharkov Oblast. It is to be completed in 240 hours. (0600)

Belgorod Oblast harvesters have sold thousands of tonnes of grain to the state. The sovkhozes and kolkhozes of Belgorod Oblast are harvesting 30 quintals per hectare, and the bulk of the crops is of a strong and valuable variety. (1200)

A 20-minute hailstorm caused considerable damage to hundreds of hectares of cotton and vegetable plantations, corn and other crops in the town of Chust, Namangan Oblast, Uzbekistan, and in nearby villages. The thawing of snow in the mountains and heavy rainfall have caused a mighty mountain torrent in Kasansay Rayon which has damaged more than 5,000 houses and about 2,000 hectares of agricultural land. (1230)

Most of rayons in Perm Oblast have begun grain harvesting. The first crop ready for harvesting is winter rye, which takes up almost 2,000,000 hectares in the Kama region. (0700)

28 July -- Kirghizia -- Osh Oblast has started harvesting alfalfa seed. Kirghizia is a major supplier of seeds, first of all of perennial grasses and sugar beet. Some 50,000 hectares here are under alfalfa seed plants alone. (0200)

Rye and pea harvesting have begun in the Altay. (0800)

Heavy rains, unusual for this time of year in Central Asia, have caused powerful mud lides in a number of oblasts of Uzbekistan -- Samarkand, Fergena, Namangan -- and considerable hardship has been caused to the population. In a number of places agricultural crops have been completely washed away; houses, water and gas pipes and power lines have been destroyed. Party and local soviet bodies are undertaking measures to render aid to the victims. Workers from rayons that have not suffered from the natural disaster have been brought in to help with the repair work. (1330)

Alma-Ata -- Throughout the oblast, one-fifth of the wheat and barley fields have now been harvested. Leading the harvest are the Taldy-Kurganskiy, Kirovskiy, and Kirbulakskiy Rayons where the average threshing yield is more than 20 quintals of grain per hectare. (1330)

Farmers in Krasnodar Kray have begun selling the second millionth tonne of grain. (1500)

Winter rye has also ripened in Perm oblast where it covers almost 200,000 hectares. (2300)

MEDIA REPORT 29 JULY AGRICULTURAL NOTES

LD010115 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 29 July. GMT times of broadcast are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

29 July

The hot July weather has speeded up the ripening of winter crops in Altay Kray. Reaping of rye has started a week earlier than usual in the kray. The area is the biggest in Siberia: 200,000 hectares. Unlike previous years, when the harvesting of rye was causing the grain growers many difficulties, Altay Kray's winter crop field has now undergone an abrupt change: This year rye came through the winter quite well in Altay Kray and for this reason in most rayons kolkhozes and sovkhozes expect to obtain good yields of grain. The reaping of peas has also started in the kray. (0100)

Kashka-Darya Oblast's grain growers are today summing up the results of the harvesting campaign: In this major granary in Uzbekistan harvesting was carried out on almost 250,000 hectares. Everywhere more grain was gathered than was planned. (0200)

Mass reaping of winter rye has started in Chelyabinsk Oblast. Sample millings were carried out by machine operators in the northern rayons where the largest tracts under rye are situated. The results have shown that the rye yield is considerably lower than in previous years: some 14 quintals per hectare. The merciless June drought has affected the development of the plants. (0200)

Spring grain crops will soon be ripe. According to specialists' data, wheat in the southern Urals will ripen 2 weeks earlier. (0200)

Procurement of fodder is continuing in Saratov Oblast. Specialized financially autonomous teams have started laying in early silage. Corn will serve as the main source of this fodder: it is being grown on an area of 500,000 hectares. Laying-in of the 2d million tonnes of haylage is being completed -- this is much more than last year. (0200)

Farmers of the Osh Oblast of Kirghizia have embarked on harvesting lucerne. The total acreage under this crop in the republic is about 50,000 hectares. (0100)

The harvesting of grain crops has started in Armenia, Chuvashia, Tula, Chelyabinsk, Tyumen Oblasts. In Uzbekistan, twice as much grain has been threshed than by this date last year. (0200)

Mass harvesting of winter rye has begun in the Mari non-Chernozem Zone. According to preliminary findings the grain yields in a number of farms is 5-6 quintals higher than in past years. (1000)

Machine operators from the Don region are fighting to keep the grain intact. The heavy rain and high winds have left the crops in such a state that the equipment cannot work quickly. Nevertheless, the cereals and pulses have been threshed on 40 percent of the area, and mown on 70 percent. (1100)

In the Maritime Kray, the harvesting of cereals has begun on more than 1,500 hectares. (1100)

The harvesting of corn has begun in Uzbekistan. (1100)

Threshing of grains on the 2d million hectare started in the Stavropol Kray today. More than a half of the total area has been harvested there so far. In Uzbekistan -- in the Samarkand and the Dzhizak Oblasts -- the corn harvest started today. (Moscow TV 1200)

In Rostov Oblast, grain has been reaped from 70 percent of the total area and threshed from 40 percent. This is less than the pervious years, but the harvesting started 2 weeks later. Throughout the oblast, farmers are now paid according to the number of quintals they harvest from each hectare and not according to the number of hectares they cover. (1500)

GRAIN HARVESTED ON 17.6 MILLION HECTARES

LD300357 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 29 Jul 87

[Text] Harvesting is going ahead more and more intensively in the country's fields. According to data from the Central Statistical Administration of the USSR for 27 July, grain and pulse crops have been reaped from 17.6 million hectares. The strategy used in harvesting depends on the state of the crops and the weather. On most of the areas sown to grain, the harvesting is being done by direct combining. The harvesting operations also have to be done separately: first reaping the crop and then threshing it later. Experts point out the need to cut down the period between reaping and threshing. Grain has been reaped from more than 17 million hectares. Such a discrepancy is not desirable because, as a rule, it leads to a considerable loss of grain. The farms are continuing to lay in the fodder crops. Calculated in fodder units, only 31 percent of the plan for fodder has been fulfilled.

MEDIA REPORT 30-31 JULY AGRICULTURAL NOTES

LD010130 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 30-31 July. GMT times of broadcast are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

30 July -- Uzbekistan's grain farmers today begin bringing in an above-plan harvest. Kashka Darya Oblast has harvested over 100,000 tonnes of grain, while the highest yield, quintals per hectare, was obtained in Andizhanskaya Oblast. (2130)

31 July

The harvesting of grain is in full swing in Kirghizia. Kirgizhia's crop farmers have grown a good harvest of grain crops this year. Making up for time lost because of the late and rainy spring, the machine operators are working literally day and night in several shifts. This year the ears are full-weight, heavy, but the winds and the rain have twisted stems over huge tracts and knocked them to the ground.

Winter rye and wheat and barley have started reaching the elevators of the Saratov Zaolzhye area. Barley is now being cultivated at kolkhozes and sovkhozes on an area of 1.5 million hectares. (0400)

The farms of Kurgan Oblast are carrying out the procurement of fodders in difficult conditions. Having suffered from the June drought, the hay lands are not producing the planned harvest. For that reason, in order to supplement fodder reserves, grasses are being harvested in forests, round lakes and marshes and on unsuitable lands [neudobitsy]. At the same time, despite the current spell of favorable weather, the pace of haymaking work remains low. To date, altogether just over 2 quintals of fodder units per standard head of cattle have been procured. This is one-tenth of what has been planned. (0400)

Virgin land farmers of Kashkadarya Oblast in Uzbekistan have delivered more than 100,000 tonnes of selected grain to the state. The highest yield was achieved in Andizhan Oblast. Now that the harvest is complete, front-ranking farms are preparing for the sowing season. (1100)

Although the grain harvest in Moldavia is complete, only one-eighth of the planned quantity has reached the elevators, and the republic's mixed fodder works are having to stop operating periodically. Most of the wheat that has come in is of good quality, but the farms are having to cope now with errors committed for a year, when protection for the newly sown seed against pests was inadequate. Specialists consider that most of the wheat sown is beyond improvement, while the Moldavian State Agro-Industrial Committee has merely taken a wait-and-see position on this matter. (1100)

The harvest is in full swing in Gomel Oblast, Belorussia, where grain is growing on over 370,000 hectares. Although the harvest is a good one, almost one-third of the grain has been beaten down. (1100)

BRIEFS

JAPANESE COMBINE -- A Japanese Mitsubishi combine is being used to harvest rice in Krasnodar Kray. This marks the start of a new stage in the rice pro[illegible]t that resulted from the protocol signed by the RSFSR State Committee for Agroindustry, the All-Union Rice Research Institute, and the Japanese Mitsubishi Corporation. In accordance with the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation, Mitsubishi supplied the combine, which has a capacity of 5 tonnes per hour and can harvest 5-7 hectares per day. An official of the Rice Research Institute notes that the Mitsubishi TSP 1000 combine was developed on the basis of Soviet technology. It can be used to harvest any grain crop. [Summary] [Moscow Television Service in Russian 1030 GMT 1 Aug 87 LD]

'COSMOS-1871' LAUNCHED 1 AUG; FUNCTIONING NORMALLY

LD030713 Moscow TASS in English 0710 GMT 3 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 3 TASS -- The Soviet Union launched an artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1871, Saturday, August 1, to continue space exploration.

The onboard equipment is functioning normally.

FLIGHT PATH OF 'COSMOS-1870' ADJUSTED

LD021506 Moscow TASS in English 1443 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] Mission Control Centre August 2 TASS -- The flight of a Cosmos-1870 satellite, which was put into a near-earth orbit on July 25, 1987, is going on.

The package of scientific equipment carried by the satellite includes a radar station, which is intended for the remote sensing of the surface of the earth and the world ocean regardless of weather conditions and the time of the day or night, as well as instruments for research into the fluxes of charged particles in the near-earth space.

Following adjustments of the flight path, the parameters of the satellite's orbit are as follows:

The maximum distance from the earth surface -- 271 km,
The minimal distance -- 254 km,
Orbital period -- 89.5 minutes,
Orbital inclination -- 71.9 degrees

The first sessions of the remote sensing of individual areas of land and the world ocean were carried out today in keeping with the programme.

Information which is being received by means of the Cosmos-1870 satellite will be transmitteed to the institutes of the USSR Academy of Sciences and to other interested organizations for study and uses in various branches of science and the national economy of the USSR.

MOSCOW TV SHOWS 'SOYUZ TM-2' LANDING 30 JUL

LD302000 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1430 GMT on 30 July in its "Vremya" newscast carries a 10-minute video report by correspondents S. Slipchenko and A. Tikhomirov on the landing of the "Soyuz TM-2" spacecraft 140 km northeast of Arkalyk.

Slipchenko reports from on-board a search and rescue helicopter, which is flying in a formation at an altitude of 2,500 km. He says that they are no more than 1 km from the descent module, as video shows cockpit of helicopter and a parachute moving across flat landscape.

Tikhomirov is seen interviewing USSR Cosmonaut Yu.V. Malyshev, in the mission control center, who explains that the descent is probably toughest for Laveykin, because he has spent almost 6 months in space.

Slipchenko, still reporting from the helicopter, then says it is feared that the descent module could fall into one of the many water reservoirs in the landing area.

After a shot of a map of the landing site, Tikhomirov is shown in the mission control center still interviewing Malyshev.

Slipchenko describes the progress of the descent module. He says that the parachute is approaching a search and rescue vehicle, which is awaiting touchdown. "The soft landing motors have worked!" Slipchenko exclaims. Video shows descent module landing on the ground, sending up a cloud of dust.

At mission control center the successful landing is announced, and those present in the control room are shown applauding.

Slipchenko on board the helicopter says search and rescue vehicles are approaching the descent module. Video shows aerial shots of vehicles moving toward the module. One helicopter can be seen on the ground at the landing site. Slipchenko says four helicopters have approached the module.

He adds that there is already a vast crowd of people at the landing site. Video shows crowd of people standing by a roped-off area of ground. Behind them are at least three helicopters. The first people to approach the cosmonauts are doctors, Slipchenko says. He notes that a tent is being set up in case there are any biological problems, there will be an examination in that tent, and only then will the assembled people be able to approach the cosmonauts. Video shows cosmonauts Viktorenko and Faris sitting in chairs on the ground. A correspondent is shown interviewing Faris. Viktorenko asks Faris how he feels to be back on earth, and Faris says he feels fine. The correspondent tells Faris it is traditional to welcome people with rice. Video shows people throwing handfuls of rice over the cosmonauts. The three cosmonauts are shown seated together and commenting on their flight and return.

Tikhomirov reports that Viktorenko and Faris arrived today at Leninsk Airport at the Baykonur cosmodrome. Video shows Viktorenko and Faris deplaning and waving. Laveykin has spent only 3-4 hours on earth, the reporter explains, and he is still being assisted, but he is said to have left the plane and to have boarded the bus unaided. Each step of the cosmonauts will be looked after by doctors, he said.

Video shows Viktorenko and Faris standing by the plane, and Laveykin is standing behind them, with his arm around the shoulder of a man in a white coat. Video then shows cosmonauts being presented with traditional bread and salt, and entering a building with a "Welcome!" sign in Russian and Arabic over the door. A crowd of onlookers applauds.

Research Accomplished

LD310414 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 30 Jul 87

[From the "Science and Engineering" program]

[Text] With the Soviet-Syrian spaceflight now over and the cosmonauts back on earth, we start off with an item about some of the extensive research accomplished during the flight. During this week-long flight, the Syrian spaceman, Muhammad Faris, worked with four Soviet cosmonauts aboard the "Mir" orbital station. Here's our science correspondent, Boris Belitskiy, to speak of some of the research carried out.

[Belitskiy] A prominent feature of the research program involved visual observations of the earth. Not just Muhammad Faris looked at Syria from space, but so did the remote sensing instruments of the orbital station plus instruments at a subsatellite level, that is aboard aircraft and on the ground. With so many eyes observing the scene at different angles and in different portions of the spectrum, the resulting picture of this ancient land will be highly revealing. Certainly remotely sensed data help to solve many economic and engineering problems related to natural resources and the environment. The flight results will therefore provide a new understanding of farmland resources in the Valley of the Euphrates, geological structures of the Arabian-African fault, or Rift Valley, and the Syrian desert, the forests in the northwest of the country, the state of the Al-Asad, (?Bath) and Lake (?Qattinah) bodies of water, the atmosphere over industrial centers, and the Mediterranean coast.

Some valuable experiments were also carried out in materials processing. For example, there was Project "Palmire," which suggests that space may actually one day provide us with bone tissue and even teeth. I know that this sounds like something out of science fiction, but the crew did perform experiments in crystallizing hydroxyl apatite, or calcium phosphate hydroxide, a compound containing the PO4 radical. Monocrystals of this substance form the reinforcement of our bone and tooth tissues. Accordingly, preparing synthetic hydroxyl apatite could lead to more dependable dentures, protective coatings for teeth and even substitutes for bone and tooth tissues, moreover, strong and light substitutes which are not rejected by the body. As you see, the scope of materials processing in space is expanding. It now ranges from metallurgy and the physics of semiconductors to biotechnology and medicine. The "Palmire" project involved quite a range of materials -- seven pairs of specimens. Mixing these pairs in a single solution is difficult because of the precipitation of crystals, the components of the pairs in this way reject one another. Microgravity conditions help to overcome this difficulty, the pairs form a homogenous structure, and observing this process was one of the aims of the experiment, made possible by a simple and original instrument devised at the Space Research Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

As always in such short visiting missions a space rookie is subjected to the most frequent medical tests and often bristles with sensors and wires. But this didn't seem to upset Muhammad Faris in the least. One medical experiment was, however, particularly impressive. It might even suggest ideas if not to inventors, certainly to sci-fi writers, ideas about a new type of space propulsion system, a system based on the energy of the heart. The fact is that its contractions impart a certain momentum to our body. On the ground this momentum is of course negligible, compared with the force of gravity. But in microgravity conditions it can be measured, and this in fact was done in the (Ballisto) experiment, designed to evaluate the contractive potential of the heart. This was not the first time the (Ballisto) experiment was staged in space. But on previous occasions the micro movements were measured along the verticle axis of the body, from head to feet. This provided an insufficiently complete picture. This time the (Ballisto) cardiographic movements were measured by a (?pieso accelerometer), a sensor recorded the magnitude and special distribution of the energy of a person's heart beats. As for amplifying these heart beats and turning them into a source of rocket propulsion in space, that's an engineering problem, at any rate for the science fiction writers.

SEMIPALATINSK NUCLEAR TEST FOR 'IMPROVING' EQUIPMENT

LD020418 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 2 Aug 87

[Text] At 0500 Moscow time [0100 GMT] at a testing site in the Semipalatinsk area, an underground nuclear explosion of 20 to 150 kilotons was carried out. The test was for further improving military equipment.

FLEET ADMIRAL CHERNAVIN INTERVIEWED ON NAVY DAY ARTICLE

PM290949 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with Admiral of the Fleet V.N. Chernavin, commander in chief of the Navy, by V. Shmyganovskiy under the rubric "Twenty-six July Is USSR Navy Day" and headlined "On a Long-Distance Voyage" -- first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] Today's naval seamen wield the most complicated equipment and face special demands imposed on them by the profession -- not only in the sense of acquiring practical knowledge (it is no coincidence that the period of service for naval enlisted men is longer than for other branches of the USSR Armed Forces), but also on a person's health, character, psychological stability, and ability to live for months on end in a confined space.

In recent years the demands on the training of personnel have become noticeably more complex, and the times have left their mark not only on combat training but on the everyday life and activity of sailors. This theme is taken up on the conversation between our IZVESTIYA correspondent and Admiral of the Fleet V.N. Chernavin, commander in chief of the Navy.

[Shmyganovskiy] It was only relatively recently that our Navy became a fleet of the open seas; that is, one that sails throughout the world's oceans. What is today's Naby like and, in that context, how have views changed regarding demands for combat qualities and the use of ships and naval aviation?

[Chernavin] In response to the constant intensification of the U.S. and NATO countries' naval forces, the Soviet Union of course has been forced to strengthen its own Navy. Does this mean that we are trying to achieve naval superiority over the United States and its allies? Of course not. We seek to guarantee the reliable defense of the motherland's interests on the seas and oceans. The particularly defensive military doctrine of the USSR and its allies is well known in the world, and it goes without saying that all its provisions also apply to the Navy, which is an integral part of the USSR Armed Forces.

The fleet's main strike force today is its submarines and naval aviation. New types of surface ships have appeared in recent years. That applies above all to the Kiev class aircraft-carrying ships and the nuclear-powered Kirov class missile cruisers. Shore-based missile and artillery troops and marines constantly are being improved. Our hardware represents a concentration of the very latest scientific and technological achievements in the nuclear power industry, missile construction, cybernetics, radio electronics, and other areas of knowledge.

Long-distance voyages are now the main form of training in naval skills. The ocean sets a stern and impartial test of ship's crews, and it demands of them the efficient organization of service on-board ship and the ability to maintain weapons and technical facilities at a high level of combat readiness and to use them skillfully. The principle of combat training is to learn what is needed in time of war.

[Shmyganovskiy] I have read on a number of occasions in Western sources that the USSR leads the world in terms of submarines. Why are such claims made?

[Chernavin] The USSR indeed does have more submarines than the United States. However, the West's concern over the USSR's advantage in this instance is unfounded. It is merely kicking up a fuss over an alleged "imbalance" in the arms race to justify the unprecedented military programs planned by the U.S. Administration.

The point is that the correlation of submarine figures quoted is not a true picture of the state of the fleets. First, it would be wrong to view questions of military-strategic parity only in terms of individual countries rather than opposing coalitions. Second, submarines are not isolated from general purpose sea forces. This is especially fair and right since the U.S. military-political leadership considers its surface ships and naval aviation to be the most important component of its naval strike forces designed to ensure supremacy in regions of "vital interest" to the United States.

[Shmyganovskiy] Does that mean that our surface fleet is considerably inferior to NATO's fleets?

[Chernavin] We have no aircraft carriers or battleships. And if you add to that the fact that the NATO countries have several times more warplanes and helicopters than we do, it becomes clear who benefits from talking about the USSR's superiority in submarines and why. Nor do we have a superiority in naval strategic armaments, where it is only possible to talk of parity.

[Shmyganovskiy] To what do we give priority?

[Chernavin] As before, to nuclear submarine construction. This includes vessels equipped with ballistic and cruise missiles of various ranges capable of hitting any target at sea or on land.

We have no intention in the future of increasing the quantity of nuclear submarines, but we do envisage taking all the necessary measures to substantially enhance their tactical and technical characteristics and quality.

[Shmyganovskiy] The equipment makes special demands on the person operating it, and the equipment that the fleet has is extremely complex. It is with good reason that the period of service for naval enlisted men is 3 years. The technical training of school leaders clearly does not enable them to be turned into top-class specialists in a short space of time, does it? You get the impression that young people do not receive prior guidance for service in the Navy. Is the Navy not losing some of its romantic appeal in the eyes of a considerable proportion of young people?

[Chernavin] The Navy's equipment is indeed most complex. Naturally, this makes it necessary to expand training programs and the tasks tackled by naval seamen during their fixed-term military service, to take care when staffing crews, and to intensify their training.

As for the advance preparation of young people for service in the Armed Forces, including the Navy, here, too, there are shortcomings, unfortunately. This point was made quite clearly and definitely at the 20th Komsomol Congress. The Navy finds itself in a more difficult position, because a good base for preliminary predraft training can only be created mainly in coastal cities. However, we highly appreciate the work of young pioneers' flotillas, young sailors' clubs, sports and technical schools for children and young people, and, of course, DOSAAF, for fostering a love of the sea and of service on board ship. Naval seamen today sponsor more than 2,000 general education schools and boarding schools, almost 300 vocational and technical schools, and 192 young sailors' clubs.

It would be a mistake to think that naval service has lost its romantic appeal. A large number of letters we receive from draftees express a desire to serve in the Navy as do the numerous requests we receive from servicemen in other branches of the Armed Forces requesting a transfer to continue their service on board ship. The competition to enter higher naval schools and the Nakhimov Naval Academy is intense. Thousands of naval seamen after completing their fixed-term service enter naval warrant officer and ensign schools and link the rest of their lives with the sea and naval service.

Unfortunately, it is also the case that some Navy draftees do not want to join the service, are not prepared either physically or mentally for difficult naval service, and do not like the 3-year term of service. Clearly, predraft training needs improvement.

[Shmyganovskiy] We rarely write about the difficulties of the naval seaman's profession. Would you please acquaint our readers with the way of life of the crew of a missile-carrying nuclear-powered submarine: How long does its combat service last, how long is spent under water, and how much time is allocated for leisure? In other words, people are interested not only in the spectacular side of naval service but also the everyday aspects.

[Chernavin] With regard to the naval seaman's profession, I would like to begin by briefly saying that missile-carrying nuclear-powered submarines are the main component of the Navy's fire power. Their displacement comes to tens of thousands of tonnes and they are over 150 meters long. They are armed with powerful ICBM's capable of delivering quick and crushing counterstrikes against any target and over any distance.

It is perfectly understandable that high demands be made on the military skill and ideological and moral tempering of the personnel of missile-carrying nuclear-powered submarines. It is intolerable for even a single crew member to be unprepared or careless here: This could have grave consequences. Long underwater voyages lasting several months and the actual living conditions require people who are strong and physically and psychologically resilient. That is why increased demands are made on recruitment to serve the missile-carrying submarines.

The conditions of service and everyday life have been improved. Submarines are relatively spacious, and the ideal temperature and gaseous composition of the vessel's atmosphere is maintained throughout the voyage. Good living conditions enable the personnel to relax before their watch. The time between watches is filled with combat study, equipment maintenance, and large-scale cultural events. This atmosphere helps reduce fatigue and lessen the sense of being far from shore.

However, constant training and exercises to keep every crew member in good condition mean that his service is far from simple or easy. [paragraph continues]

After voyages crews are given leisure time to recover. To that end a network of leisure centers, boarding houses, tourist centers, and sanatoriums has been created where submariners follow a special recuperative and training regime under medical supervision. Such a method enables the cardiovascular system and lungs to return to normal condition after a voyage, restores submariners' strength, and improves their efficiency. A large amount of capital investments has been planned for the 12th 5-Year Plan period to improve and further develop the leisure system for Navy personnel, an amount considerably exceeding previous spending in this regard.

[Shmyganovskiy] Last 25 May marked the 15th anniversary of the signing and entry into force of the agreement between the USSR Government and U.S. Government on the prevention of incidents in the open sea and in the air above it. Has the situation at sea improved as a result of that agreement?

[Chernavin] In addition to the existing norms of international law, the agreement contains the states' mutual commitments to prevent unauthorized actions capable of creating dangerous situations at sea by ships and aircraft of either side. It may be noted with satisfaction that the application of this treaty's provisions has resulted in a reduction in the number of incidents between the two sides' ships and aircraft.

A communications channel between the Navies has been set up and is working effectively through the sides' naval attaches to ensure the prompt exchange of information on incidents at sea, and each year consultations are held in Moscow and Washington alternately during which the Navies' representatives have an opportunity to sit down and discuss the problem of ensuring security at sea. They are conducted at a highly professional level by admirals and officers from the two sides and the results are transmitted to those directly responsible for carrying them out -- commanders of ships and planes and their formations. It is important to note that the document is gradually gaining international acceptance. As is well known, a USSR-U.K. agreement on preventing incidents at sea also was concluded on 15 July 1986.

[Shmyganovskiy] What is your view of the U.S. Navy's actions in the Persian Gulf? Are there Soviet warships there?

[Chernavin] The creation of a U.S. Navy strike force in the Persian Gulf consisting of a strike aircraft carrier and protection ships causes justifiable alarm not only to the countries of the region but even to the U.S. Congress. The Pentagon's statement on the possibility of launching strikes against Iranian territory is nothing other than the latest manifestation of the Washington administration's policy of neoglobalism and a direct threat not only to Persian Gulf countries but to all international shipping.

Our position on this question is absolutely clear. There must be no saber-rattling in the Persian Gulf: Instead, political and diplomatic measures should be taken to secure the earliest end to the Iran-Iraq war, which is the main source of tension and danger to international shipping in the Gulf.

There are no Soviet warships permanently stationed in the Persian Gulf. As has already been stated on numerous occasions, Soviet warships are stationed in the Indian Ocean in a small group of five vessels. Four of those ships (three minesweepers and one escort ship) are in the approaches to the Strait of Hormuz. Unlike the U.S. Navy grouping, our ships pose no threat to the Persian Gulf countries. They accompany Soviet merchant ships in the Gulf to ensure their security. Unfortunately, since the MV Ivan Koroteyev was fired on last May by launches of unknown origin we have been forced to protect our merchant ships.